



NGO says cut
your carbon

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Water expo
cools Spanish
summer

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Survivor finds smile-and-friend



Yang Qin, a Sichuan Province earthquake survivor, had both her legs amputated at Fuzhou Provincial Hospital Wednesday. The doll pictured, Puka, was a gift from her surgeons.

Many children like Yang have been excavated in rescue efforts that continued 17 days after the quake. Those whose parents have yet to be located have been sent out to hospitals and foster care centers in other provinces.

Aftershocks and "quake lakes," created by landslides and rockfall, continue to threaten homes in the province's most quake-struck regions.

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Chinese cinema turns cold to Stone

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CFP Photo

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Pecha Kucha
means snappy
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Greek
tragedy on
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Students get
the shake
in quake sim

好运北京
GOOD LUCK

Pre-Games
sports special

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Beijing' series

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Party says harsh penalties for embezzlers of relief funds

By Han Manman

The top anti-embezzlement official of the Communist Party vowed Wednesday to deal "quick, strict and harsh penalties" to those found withholding or embezzling quake relief funds and supplies.

He Guoqiang, secretary of the CPC's Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), said it goes against justice to make profit from a national calamity by withholding and embezzling quake relief funds and supplies.

Once such misconduct is spotted, it must be dealt with quickly and harshly and exposed to the public, he said. Those in dereliction of duty will also be punished,

he said.

He said detailed measures to check wrongdoing and illegal behavior at a national meeting on the monitoring of quake relief funds and goods including setting up a leading group for supervision and inspection of earthquake relief funds and supplies; publicizing a series of regulations that was set down according to new situations and tasks; utilizing forces of all sectors to monitor the management and usage of funds and supplies; inviting auditors to examine the whole process of management and usage of government funds and social donations for quake-hit areas; organizing special check-ups to spot and rectify irregularities in

a timely manner and sticking to the principle of being fair and transparent.

He urged reinforced efforts in supervision to ensure "clean" disaster relief work and make sure they benefit quake-affected people.

From May 14 to 27, the Sichuan provincial government received 2,233 complaints and reports from the public, Ren Jun-nian, vice director of the Sichuan Provincial Supervision Department said Wednesday at the sixteenth earthquake relief press conference.

Ren said violations in the use of the relief tents and other relief goods made up 26 percent of complaints. Other complaints include

making false reports, delays, unfair distribution of relief supplies and officials breaching duty.

"We will investigate those reports and harshly punish related persons if the reports turn out to be true," Ren said.

As of Wednesday at noon, donations from home and abroad to China's quake-hit regions reached 37.3 billion yuan, the Information Office of the State Council said.

According to a report from the Ministry of Civil Affairs, as of yesterday at noon, 68,516 people had been killed, 365,399 were injured and 19,350 remain missing since the quake in Wenchuan, Sichuan.

City seeks long term volunteers for quake support

By Bai Jingnan

The capital will provide long-term volunteer service for earthquake areas. Recruitment begins Monday, and volunteers are expected to register for 500 hours of service, no less than 100 per year. The drive is managed by the Beijing Youth League and Beijing Volunteers Association.

Volunteers will provide education, medical, culture and science and technology support.

Applicants must be 18 or more years old or older, have worked in Beijing more than two years, volunteer more than 500 hours of service to the earthquake-stricken area, read and speak Chinese, have an area of specialization, a sense of responsibility and willingness to bear hardships.

Application Web site: bv2008.com

39 survivors stranded for 17 days

By Li Fenghua

The Civil Aviation Administration rescued 39 survivors on Wednesday, 17 days after the Sichuan earthquake, CCTV and Chengdu Shangbao reported.

The survivors hail from Beichuan, Qingchuan and An county, and 23 are from Qingping town.

Qingping town is located in the remote mountains of Mianzhu. Communication was suspended immediately after the earthquake, and the only road to Qingping collapsed. Its inhabitants could not descend the mountain since fallen rocks blocked the road.

Over 2,000 people were rescued through vehicles via land and air since May 12. Eight people in Yangjiagou were rescued by helicopters Wednesday. They were sent to the hospital and are considered in poor condition.

Tang Yougui, a worker who was stranded, told what happened to his seven coworkers, "We were working in Yangjiagou, 11 kilometers northwest of Qingping town. The eight of us tried to run to Hanwang after the earthquake."

They had to climb the mountains since the roads were all blocked by the rocks which fell down the mountain. After two days of climbing, Tang and the other seven men settle down by the Pingshui River for rescue. No one found them until May 22, so they returned to Yangjiagou, leaving behind a note to ask for help.

During the 13 days since the earthquake, they had no food or water. They drank rain and dew when they were thirsty and ate edible wild herbs for food. By May 24, the eight men found only a pot and some rice in the ruins. They made a fire beside the river and live on rice porridge for the next several days.



Helicopters carried out survivors after 17 days.

Photo by Zhang Zhijun

Brief news

Work group for reconstruction

The government decided to form a post-quake reconstruction group as part of its disaster relief for areas battered by the May 12 earthquake. The planning group will make assessments on related geological conditions and decide locations for reconstruction projects. It will also organize professionals to formulate reconstruction plans and detailed implementation schemes.

Family planning policy revised for quake

The government is rushing to adapt its family planning policy for families in the quake-hit areas to lessen the pains of hurt parents. Local Sichuan Province officials said Monday that the changed policy will exempt families with a child who has been killed, severely injured or disabled in the devastating quake, and those families can obtain a certificate to have another child.

Epidemic prevention measures intensified

Despite no major disease outbreaks so far in quake-hit regions, health and epidemic prevention efforts continue, the Ministry of Health said. It is working to implement a comprehensive epidemic surveillance and containment system in disaster areas across Sichuan. Thus far, 10,000 specialists in epidemic control and prevention have been dispatched to prevent secondary disasters.

Banks ordered to write off bad loans

The banking regulator Monday ordered domestic banks to write off bad loans caused by the devastating earthquake. The write-offs are to reduce the mortgage burden of survivors and help reconstruction efforts in the province. The move is seen as benefiting both debtors and lenders as the write-offs will not hurt the credit ratings or earnings of the banks, analysts said.

(By Zhang Dongya)

Plan to drain 'quake lakes' proceeds

By Zhang Dongya

Rescuers with large pieces of earth-moving equipment have been working non-stop atop the Tangjiashan quake lake to create a channel. The channel is expected to be completed by June 5.

It was considered one of the "most pressing jobs at hand," according to Premier Wen Jiabao's speech at the 14th meeting of the earthquake relief headquarters Tuesday.

The government said Wednesday it allocated 200 million yuan from the central budget for Sichuan Province to deal with the swelling lakes formed by the devastating earthquake this month.

Two big aftershocks hit Qingchuan County in Sichuan Province and Ningqiang in Shaanxi

Province Tuesday. Luckily, the aftershocks did not cause more major damage to the three quake lakes in Qingchuan County, but the water level of Tangjiashan quake lake rose 1.79 meters, Tan Li, party secretary of Mianyang, also chief of Mianyang City Quake Control and Relief Headquarters, said.

A plan to move all 1.3 million residents within four hours with zero deaths was issued Wednesday in Sichuan Province. "Not to do this would be a breach of duty on our part as government employees," Tan said.

Landslides from the massive earthquake created 34 "quake lakes" in the mountainous province, with 28 still at risk of rupturing, the relief headquarters of

the Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) said.

Tangjiashan Lake poses one of the biggest threats to the lives of people living downstream. About 158,000 people have been evacuated and dozens of villages emptied in case the earthquake-created Tangjiashan Lake bursts before soldiers and engineers can drain it.

Several districts in the city of Mianyang staged an evacuation rehearsal Tuesday to move the most people in the shortest time possible.

The rise in the lake's water level has slowed down. From 7 pm Tuesday to 7 am Wednesday, it rose only by 83 centimeters, Yang Hailiang, a leading on-site rescue operation officer, said.



Local residents evacuate to safer surroundings in Mianyang, before the Tangjiashan quake lake bursts. IC Photo

Children still play in the makeshift shelters that dot Sichuan's hardest-hit area.
Photo by Feng Lin



Road to Recovery for quake children

Psychologists must make long term plans for quake children

By Annie Wei

"It's just not enough to feed them candies or coke. They need long-term therapy," Jin Yunrong, a Taiwanese psychologist, said during her visit to Mianzu, the area hardest hit.

Jin was to work in a temporary tent with 10 children after the disaster. Four of the 10 children have yet to locate their parents.

When these children were asked what an earthquake was, most children had no idea. A 13-year-old boy thought their bad behavior caused the disaster.

"We need to make these children know that earthquake was not their fault. They can get rid of the fear only when they can see this disaster correctly," Jin said.

Jin said the best way for these children to get away from trauma is to rebuild a normal environment for them, like going back to schools and being with their classmates.

She said these children need at least seven years to recover completely and psychologists need to prepare a long-term help agenda.

Many other psychologists like Jin from central government level to NGOs voluntarily went to the disaster zone to help the children shaken by the earthquake.

Li Jingjiang, another psychologist from Central South University, said mental help must reach more than the children.

Psychologists are still in great demand, Xinhua News agency said.



Adults have tried to cheer up children in the quake shelter zone.

Photo by Wang Kai

Media urged to reign in interview with survivors

By Zhang Dongya

Numerous Internet voices have called for media to exercise more caution when covering stories related to quake orphans. Among these voices is one orphaned by the Tangshan quake 30 years ago.

The orphan, named Sandy, was 12 when the quake happened. He lost his parents and other relatives overnight, and was adopted later by a relative in Beijing. During the following years, Sandy was interviewed about the disaster

and was invited to speak about how the quake made him suffer. "Forcing me to recall that event just brought the disaster back again and again," Sandy wrote in his blog.

Some orphans were invited by media outlets to present the disaster and their experience in various programs. Psychologists considered it cruel since it was like making the orphans relive the quake: the children cried when they told their story to

the audience.

"The orphans now are very fragile and what they need most is psychological help and the company of family and friends. Interviews by media will damage them," psychologists said.

Jin Yunrong, a psychologist, created a list of 10 "Don'ts" for treating orphans of the disaster. He said people should not force them to recall the event, talk about it, intervene in their emotions or feelings or try to replace

their parents.

Chen Xiumin, 40, another orphan of the Tangshan quake, said she is still terrified of thunder and lightning and has been so for 30 years.

Regarding orphan adoption, Sandy said people consider adopting one should think very carefully. Children who survive such trauma are permanently affected, and many such orphans can be sensitive, stubborn and hostile. They need more patience and special care.

Beichuan children holiday in capital

By Zhang Dongya

Four girls from Beichuan County, one of the worst quake-stricken areas in Sichuan Province, arrived in town Tuesday. They are expected to spend Children's Day with their Beijing peers.

The four girls are Chen Ling, Zou Hong and the twins Xi Dashuang and Xi Xiaoshuang. Four other students from Beijing Fangcaodi Primary School met the girls at the Capital Airport Tuesday afternoon. They took a board

saying "Welcome," flowers and a wheelchair. "One twin's leg was hurt, so we prepared the wheelchair," Xu Xian, a fifth grade student, said.

Girls will pair off in teams of two with each team consisting of one Beijing girl and one Beichuan girl. They will attend classes, take part in school activities and visit the Imperial Palace, Bird's Nest and Water Cube together. "We hope they can recover and spend a few happy days with us," Xu said.

The four girls will be accompanied by two volunteer psychologists during their stay. "They refused to communicate with people after the quake," Zong Chunshan, director of Beijing Education Support Organization, said, "Since working with the volunteer psychologists, they are almost recovered."

Xiaoshuang, 8, the younger sister of the twins, will receive skin grafts to her left leg while in the capital. Zou Hong and Chen Ling, junior middle school stu-

dents from No.1 Middle School in Beichuan, were buried for more than 50 hours after the quake.

"The disaster has had a serious impact on them and they cannot help crying when they recall it," Zong Chunshan said. The activities are planned as a supplement to the children's ongoing therapy sessions.

Some similar events have been held in other cities, like Sanya, a tourist city with a beach.

Finding foster care in Yunnan

By Zheng Lulu

The Lijiang Ethnic Orphanage School in Yunnan Province will receive 41 children from Shifang, Sichuan Province, one of the areas most damaged by the quake, a spokesman for the Children and Teenagers Fund (CCTF) said.

Most of the children are orphans or lost a parent, CCTF said.

The group is led by Song Liying, secretary-general of CCTF and Ling Feng, director of the neurosurgery department, Xuanwu Hospital of the Capital University of Medical Sciences.

Song says the children will live in Yunnan for one year temporarily. During this period, guardians or relatives can collect the children after it is confirmed they have homes for them.

CCTF selected the children with the aid of the

Women's Federation in Shifang, Sichuan Province. The children were registered and files on each are being kept. Beijing Xuanwu Hospital has sent staff to do checkups on each child, and psychological experts are treating them since the accident.



With unprecedented relief donations pouring into the quake-hit areas, transportation of the goods becomes difficult.

IC Photo

Public ponders over relief circulation

By Huang Daohen

As aid donations from home and abroad soar into billions of yuan, the public concern over the use of the funds and efficiency of relief supply circulation has been intensified.

As of press day, donations raised through organizations affiliated with the Chinese Civil Affairs Ministry totaled over 34 billion yuan.

Mean man

"The offenders lack ethics and deserve to have their stores closed down," a local resident in Luojiang County in Deyang city surnamed Chen said while referring to Wang Yadong, an official at the county's armed police training base.

Wang, according to the Sichuan Provincial Government Information Office, had taken the relief supplies including soft drinks, instant noodles and other materials to his girlfriend's shop for sale.

"The store owner affected the image of the Sichuan people negatively," Chen said. "The disaster relief material was donated by kind-hearted people and should be sent to the most needed places. Once they do this sort of negative act here, who is going to donate anything more?" he added.

Wang has been detained for suspected criminal activities and the base administrator has been relieved of his duties.

Intense tents

Misappropriation of relief materials, claimed by the Sichuan government as rare and individual cases, was seen intermittently in local reports, setting off heated debate among netizens and the public.

Recently, tents labeled "for disaster relief only" appeared in Chengdu City, raising the local authority's attention. As Chengdu is neither a heavily quake-hit area

nor one affected by aftershocks, local residents are not entitled to use these relief tents.

In a tent in Qingyang District, several people were playing mah-jong inside, and when asked how they got the tent, one of the players answered, "Through special connections," reported *Southern Metropolitan Daily*.

This reply incited anger among the public after it was posted online.

Last Tuesday, the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Sichuan Civil Affairs Bureau expressed its concern, saying that a relevant investigation group has been established to look into the case. It found that the tents were sold by a local merchant who stocked the tents in the name of the local Red Cross Association.

Zhao Rupeng, deputy director of the Office of Sichuan Civil Affairs Bureau, said at a recent news briefing that he felt incensed at the tents in Chengdu, but he believed that the civil affairs authorities at both the provincial and municipal level would not be at fault.

"We will dig out the facts and punish the miscreants," Zhao said, "Severe punishment will be handed out to whoever is responsible."

Gov eyes wide open

To rule out misappropriation, a special department was set up by the local government to step up the scrutiny at the Shuangliu Airport in Chengdu where all relief



The shop selling misappropriated relief materials was closed down by the police.

Photo provided by Ming Pao

goods from overseas are initially gathered, according to Yang Yan, a reporter from locally-based *Tianfu Morning* who conducted an investigation on the spot.

All donated relief goods, after arriving at the airport, will be fast-tracked for checks by the local customs and safety inspection authorities. Then they will be dispatched by the civil affairs department to the quake-hit areas, Yang said.

For relief goods that are not required to be sent to specific townships or cities, the civil affairs department will dispatch them to the worst-hit cities and counties.

The government enhanced the scrutiny with a reception tactic. A reception note issued by township-level authorities in the quake zones was required when the relief goods

reached their destination, and local discipline inspectors would be sent out to check the reception and supervise the process, Yang said.

"The goal is to ensure relief goods reach every quake-hit township. Once the goods arrive at the townships, the distribution is under strict supervision," Du Xiaoyan, an official with the civil affairs departments, said.

In addition, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the Ministry of Supervision established designated working groups to supervise the circulation of relief supplies in Sichuan.

On May 20, the central government issued a circular to all levels of governmental bodies, listing the important issues related to management and supervision of the distribution of disaster relief materials and funds.

The circular listed five broad areas of attention, including the set up and standardization of collections and distribution, professional auditing, maintaining transparency and tough disciplinary action against corruption and abuse, Xinhua reported.

Funds distribution

The monitoring of usage of the large amounts of funds is also a big concern for the public.

Donations would be spent in phases according to needs, Liu Guolin, secretary of China Charity Federation (CCF), said. During the first phase, funds were mainly spent on relief rescue, relocating

affected victims and meeting their daily needs.

"Our priority is to purchase tents ... for sheltering quake victims," Liu said.

He said the federation deployed specialists to quake-hit areas to collect accurate information on relief materials that were most needed.

The current supervision mechanism, Liu said, requires officials to make public announcements. In addition, foundations would acquire the services of professional auditors and they would be monitored by the government, he added.

The National Audit Office had already stepped in to monitor the relief funds collection and distribution process, according to the CCF's official Web site.

Open the books

There are increasing calls by netizens and the public for the authority to be more transparent and disclose the full details of its relief accounts. Some suggested that the government should select a certain number of supervisors from the public to monitor the circulation of the relief supplies.

Wang Ping, vice-director of the poverty alleviation department at the Red Cross Society of China, said however it was still not the time.

"At the moment, we have yet to focus our energy on this matter due to limited manpower," Wang said.

"We are still busy determining what are the most urgently needed materials, formulating disaster relief plans and so on," he added.

Chinese cinema to ban Sharon Stone

(The Times) – Film star Sharon Stone has set off a storm of fury across the country after she suggested the deadly earthquake that killed as many as 80,000 people was bad karma.

Several Chinese cinemas have pledged not to screen her movies and the Internet has exploded in a stream of angry comments.

Stone, speaking at the Cannes Film Festival last week, said, "I'm not happy about the way the Chinese are treating the Tibetans because I don't think anyone should be unkind to anyone else."

Answering questions on the red carpet, she said, “And then all this earthquake and all this stuff happened, and I thought, is that karma – when you’re not nice, bad things happen to you?”

The popular *Beijing Times* quoted Ng See-yuen, founder of the UME Cineplex chain, as saying that no film featuring Stone would be shown from now on at any UME cinema in Hong Kong or in the mainland. Her most recent film, *The Year of Getting to Know Us*, and four other movies starring the actress, are scheduled by 2010.

The Chinese public relations company acting for cosmetic and couture house Christian Dior – which uses Stone extensively in its advertisements – had distanced itself from her remarks, the newspaper said. Dior boutiques in major Beijing department stores had removed images of Stone in advertisements as of Monday evening.

Thousands of Internet users have posted criticisms online. Many have urged a boycott of products with which Stone is said to be associated – ranging from Guerlain to Ebel.

Online response

I respect everyone's political views, but her comments are certainly not bright.

For the supporters of her comments due to suspicion of China's policy on Tibet, read a proper history book, go to visit Tibet and see it with your own eyes.

– Will, Hong Kong, PRC

This is absolutely horrible – how could someone be so cold hearted to say that so many people would deserve to die. Children died and families are torn apart, people are homeless and desparate[sic]

for help and compassion[sic]. Kudos to everyone who turns away from Sharon Stone. She better watch her karma!

– Rachael, Spokane, US

I have been using Dior products for 6 years; I will halt using Dior products unless Dior halts using Sharon Stone-heart. It is a shame to use a product represented by a perverted, cold-blooded person.

– Sharon, Lyngby, Denmark

I choose to forgive her. Because she just said what she thought,

I don't think she meant that to the victims in the earthquake. She only got incomplete information, so she doesn't know the whole true story of Tibet. She is a victim herself. God bless her!

– Mike, Nottm, UK

Her insulting remarks just show actors and celebrities should avoid making any public comments; at least they should pay attention to their words. When you're famous, you no longer speak for yourself alone.

– Jun Lee, Beijing



Stone's comments have provoked public outrage and Chinese theaters have dropped her films. CFP Photo

CFP Photo



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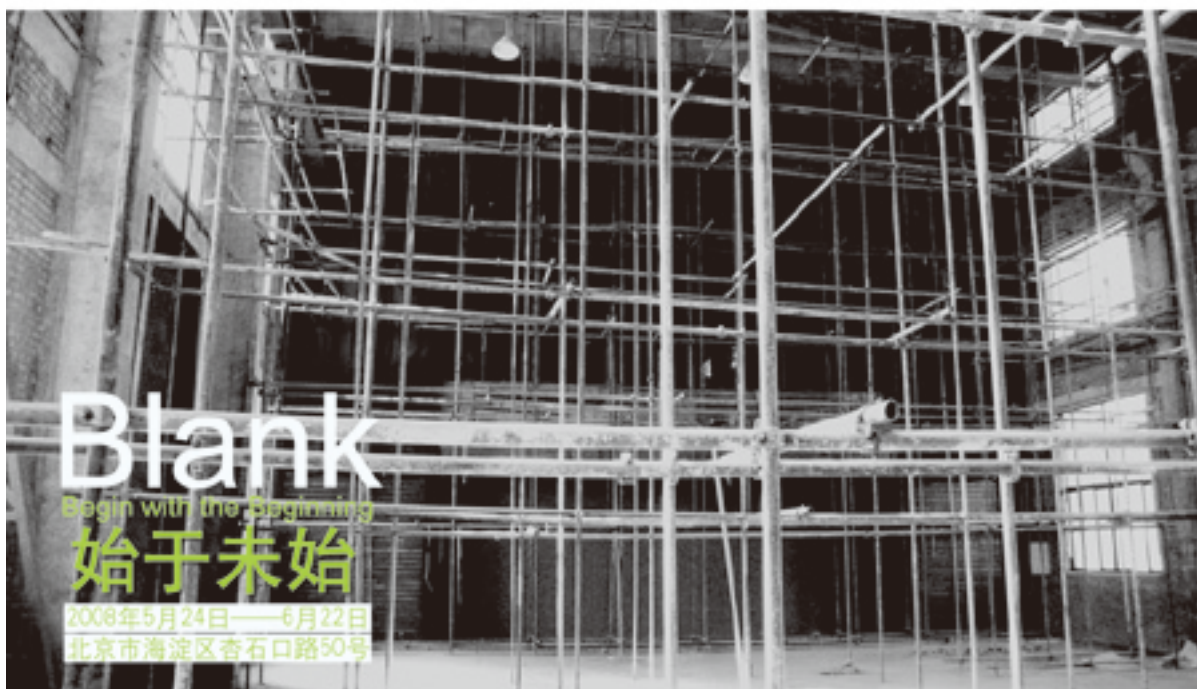


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China starts its major telecom reshuffle

By Huang Daohen

The government announced last Saturday plans for a major telecom industry reorganization, asking the nation's five telecommunication companies to merge into three and compete for telecom licenses.

"Based on the current situation of the telecom industry, we encourage China Telecom to buy China Unicom's code-division multiple access (CDMA) network and China Unicom to incorporate with China Netcom," the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the National Development and Reform Commission and the

Ministry of Finance said in a joint statement.

After the reorganization, the five operators will be reduced to three, namely the newly-reorganized China Telecom, China Unicom and China Mobile. China Netcom and China Tietong will disappear in the mergers.

Starting last Friday, the reshuffle aims at encouraging competition among the surviving telecom operators and will take about five months to complete, *Beijing Youth Daily* reported Tuesday, citing a research note by Guotai Jun'an Securities.

The research also noted that China Unicom may benefit most

from the reorganization as it would be able to focus on one network. Meanwhile, China Telecom will gain access to mobile services.

For China Mobile, its monopoly would be shaken in the short term, Steven Liu, a Hong Kong-based analyst with DBS Vickers, was quoted by AFP as saying.

"One of the benefits of integrating fixed line and mobile operations would be to bring about scale effects, for instance through bundling of sales," he said.

But more believe China Mobile's advantage will be strengthened in the long run.

Shu Huaying, professor at Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, said he was disappointed at the reshuffle plan, because the "five into three" plan will only reallocate resources, instead of solving market imbalance.

Shu predicted that for the next two years China Mobile's subscribers will continue to increase while those of the new China Unicom and China Telecom will continue to decrease. "The new plan only moves the CDMA and GSM networks to different operators and will lean towards China Mobile's advantage," he said.

FedEx delivers private airlift to Sichuan



Heart to Heart International, a global humanitarian organization, in cooperation with FedEx Express and one of the world's largest express transportation companies, yesterday delivered relief supplies valued at more than US \$1.5 million to Sichuan Province, the southwestern province devastated by an 8.0 magnitude earthquake on May 12.

It is the first major shipment of private aid from the US to the earthquake zone.

Photo provided by FedEx

Bank of America to increase stake in CCB

China Construction Bank (CCB) announced on Tuesday Bank of America is to exercise part of its call option to buy 6 billion Hong Kong-listed CCB shares from Huijin at about HK \$2.42 (US \$0.31) per share.

Bank of America planned to finish the transaction on June 5, under an agreement it signed in 2005 with Central Huijin Investment, an investment arm of the government.

It would reduce Huijin's CCB stake to 65.4 percent, and boost Bank of America's share to 10.75 percent, or about 25.1 billion H-shares, the announcement said.

The shares purchased under the option may not be sold until August 29, 2011, without CCB's written consent.

(Xinhua)

Seed giant focuses on long-term strategy

By Huang Daohen

The US seed giant Monsanto said Wednesday it would stick to the long term developing strategy in the Chinese Market, helping Chinese farmers be more equipped with modern agricultural technology.

The modern biological technology and genetic engineering can achieve a more stable or higher yield of farm crops without adding input or damaging the environment, Mike Frank, president of Monsanto China, said during a media briefing on Wednesday.

As for growth, global agriculture markets have been on fire recently, with the prices of wheat, soybeans, corn and other basic food commodities surging to new multi-year highs, Frank said.

The main force driving the hikes are increased consumption of crops for bio-fuel, which is also boosting demand for agricultural commodities, the president said.

Farmers, as a result, are

looking to maximize their yields per hectare to improve production and take advantage of higher prices.

"Monsanto products are one of the only ways to boost yields," Harvey Glick, chief scientist in Monsanto China, said.

Monsanto makes genetically modified (GM) seeds designed to offer protection against disease, pests, weeds and environmental conditions for all sorts of crops, and therefore boost corn yields per hectare, Glick said.

Monsanto China has been in partnership with Chinese companies to carry out GM cotton seedling for almost a decade.

Frank noted that Monsanto has gradually expanded its business in three independent yet closely-related sectors – agriculture, food and drugs.

However, referring to the commercialization of GM rice, China is proceeding with caution. Officials from the Ministry of Agriculture have reported that



Mike Frank

Photo provided by Monsanto China

the ministry set up a supervision and monitoring system nationwide to ensure that the GM crops are safe for human consumption and the environment.

Nevertheless, Lin Min, director of the Agricultural Research Centre under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), is optimistic that the GM crops industry will be gradually accepted by the public.

GE's green order grows to US \$14 billion

By Annie Wei

GE announced this week that it is expanding its ecomagination strategy and committing to reduce its global water use by 20 percent by 2012. The company reported that revenues from its portfolio of energy efficient and environmentally-advantageous products and services grossed US \$14 billion in 2007, up as much as 15 percent from 2006; the ecomagination order book surged past \$70 billion and GE's own "cleantech" fund – an investment to research and develop cleaner technology – passed \$1 billion for the first time.

Its sales revenue in China reached US \$4.4 billion with 10 percent attributed to green projects.

Nestle offers new milk powder for toddlers

By He Jianwei

Nestle China introduced the San Hao Overall Nutrition Solution and its new milk powder for toddlers at a 2008 China Toddler Nutrition and Health workshop held by Nestle China and China Nutrition Society on Monday at Jianguo Garden Hotel.

"Neslac helps toddlers get balanced nutrition with overall development in three areas: absorption, brain and body. Each year, Nestle invests 12 billion yuan in research and development (R&D) to continuously improve the quality of our products. We have 23 R&D centers around the world. In China we have an R&D Center in Shanghai and will soon open one in Beijing. We will have the first Nestle research center to conduct fundamental research outside of Switzerland," Heiko Schipper, head of Milks Business Unit, Nestle Greater China Region, said.

Nestle said it donated NESLAC to children in quake-stricken Sichuan Province.

French company acquires Chinese digital agency

By He Jianwei

Publicis Groupe from France has acquired Shanghai-based digital marketing agency EmporioAsia, an official said last Thursday.

The agency will be renamed as EmporioAsia Leo Burnett, with CEO Vincent Kobler heading the new agency. The acquisition boosts the multinational agency's strategic, production and creative capabilities in the fast-growing digital sphere.

"The acquisition of EmporioAsia confirms our commitment to strengthening the Publicis Groupe presence in digital and emerging markets. The talent and expertise of EmporioAsia will help us maintain a leading edge in what is largely considered to be one of the most promising advertising markets in the world," Maurice Levy, chairman and CEO of Publicis Groupe, said.

EmporioAsia was recognized previously as China's Best Interactive Marketing Agency.

Pecha Kucha: Solution to lecture snore-fests



Miguel Angel Payano, an artist from the US, at Pecha Kucha Beijing's event at Yugongyishan. Photo by Simon Lim

By Annie Wei

From the outside, Beijing is a rough city with less fashion sense than Hong Kong or Shanghai, but from the inside, it features many small interesting mixed cultures and groups.

The Beijing Pecha Kucha is a new group like that. Its lecture framework of 20 photos and 20 seconds of introduction each plus 10 speakers per event is a much more interesting style for young residents who have interests in finding new ideas, architecture, art, music, fashion, writing, film and photography.

The Beijing Pecha Kucha is made up of five members, Sebastian Linack, 29, and Andre Schmidt, 35, both German, Salome Chen, 31, Chinese, Florian Pucher, 30, and Miriam Deller 26, both Austrian.

People get bored with long lectures lasting for hours and that is why the Pecha Kucha format is so attractive.

Pecha Kucha was originally started by the Tokyo-based architecture firm Klein Dytham Architects in its nightclub Super Deluxe. After it proved to be the perfect recipe for a good night out as well as a great way to meet new people, exchange ideas and find new employees or jobs, the format was picked up all over the world. Pecha Kucha is now held in 125 cities worldwide.

"After the presentation, people can talk to each other and exchange ideas. It is a better way to connect people, collect interesting ideas and create new scenes than most of the conventions in Beijing now," Linack said.

The last Pecha Kucha was held at Yugongyishan on May 18 and attracted around 400 spectators.

Some speakers are really good. Many speakers do not spend much time talking about

their career achievements, but instead, share their interests and passions.

Gregor Hoheisel from Graft talked about its projects working with Hollywood actor Brad Pitt in New Orleans. After New Orleans was destroyed by hurricane Katrina, it teamed up with to build houses for the homeless. Another speaker, Hong Ying, who had 35 stores in town, talked nothing of her business but her dream of having a dance school and her experience of learning swing dance in Sweden.

Linack, one of the organizers, said that he learned about Pecha Kucha from a friend in Shanghai some years ago and thought it was a great idea.

He got in touch with Klein Dytham architects in Tokyo and now is committed to hold Pecha Kucha Nights in Beijing as required and to hold the events at least four times a year in a

non-commercial way.

Pecha Kucha is a very new concept and is spreading quickly. "There were only 25 cities worldwide holding Pecha Kucha when we started it in December, 2006 in Beijing, but there are 125 now," Linack said.

The event is open to all. The Chinese audiences and the expat community alike enjoy the lectures. Each Pecha Kucha event has over 50 percent local speakers.

So far, they have held 5 events: the first in 2006 attracted 140 people, which was more than they expected; 450 for the second event at 798 Nike Space, 300 for the 3rd, 500 for the 4th and 400 people attended last weekend.

"The event is non-profit and we do not want it become too commercial. We prefer audiences who have real interests in the themes talked about," Linack said.

Event

A Booktalk: Plan B

The world now consistently consumes more grain than it produces; grain stocks are now at a historic low. One fifth of the US grain harvest is now being turned into ethanol for fuel use. One third of reptile, amphibian, and fish species examined by the World Conservation Union are considered to be threatened with extinction. Lester Brown, Director of the Earth Policy Institute, and author of the ground breaking Plan B, returns to The Bookworm to outline his ambitious and progressive ideas for re-shaping the way we treat our planet.

Where: The Bookworm, Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District

When: June 3, 7:30 pm

Tel: 6586 9507

Wrapping Zongzi at Dragon Boat Festival

The Chinese Dragon Boat Festival has been emphasized by the Chinese government as one of the traditional holidays and people will be given one-day off. The date of the festival falls on the 5th day of the 5th Chinese lunar month, which is June 8 this year. Two major activities will be: the Dragon Boat races and the consumption of zongzi, pyramid-shaped rice wrapped in reed or bamboo leaves.

Where: Chinese Culture Club, Kent Center, 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: June 6, 11 am - 1 pm

Cost: 100 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341

Cross-cultural awareness training

Jeanne Boden, a sinologist, is regularly called upon to offer her expertise as a translator, interpreter, consultant and academic in numerous areas related to China. She has translated the works of notable Chinese writers such as Su Tong, Ma Yuan, Bei Cun, Can Xue, Chen Cun, from Chinese into Dutch and has an impressive portfolio of articles and magazine credits in leading publications and newspapers. She will give a lecture about cross-cultural awareness.

Where: Hutong School Courtyard, Shuangsi Hutong 8, Jiu Gulou Dajie, Xicheng District

When: June 1, 9 am - 5 pm

Cost: 1,200 yuan

Tel: 6403 8670

Exploring Swedish management in China

The Swedish Chamber of Commerce in China will organize an interactive workshop under the theme "Exploring Swedish Management in China." The target group is Chinese mid-level managers or employees in Swedish companies in China.

Where: Ballroom 2 and 3, first floor of Radisson SAS Hotel Beijing, A 6, Beisanhuan Dong Lu, Chaoyang District

When: June 3, 8:30 am - 1 pm

Cost: Maximum three persons free of charge, after that number, 260 yuan per person
Tel: 5922 3388 ext. 313

(By He Jianwei)

CSB holds charity gala for Sichuan victims

By Gan Tian

The Commonwealth Society in Beijing (CSB) will hold its biggest event, the Charity Gala, next Friday at the China World Hotel. The money collected will go to Sichuan victims.

CSB is a non-profit organization mainly devoted to organizing fund raising activities for charities in China. Members are female citizens from many different Commonwealth countries. "We are of different cultures," Daniela Xuereb, leader of the Society, said. The important thing for me is to find the similarities in our cultures and to show respect for each other's beliefs. There is always something new to learn about each other," she said.

Xuereb and her committee members started preparing the June Charity Gala in January. "Our wish is to raise as much money as possible to be able to help as many people or children in need," Xuereb said.

Classic musical comes to town

By Gan Tian

The International Festival Chorus (IFC) presented the debut of its musical *Oliver!* last night at the People's Liberation Army Opera House. The show is on again tonight and runs throughout the weekend.

Directed by Zhang Kemin, with musical direction by Nicholas Smith, the musical features marvelous songs by more than 60 performers, including 28 children and 34 adults. There were more than 20 nationalities included in the group.

The actors and actresses are all living in Beijing, except Michael Sterling, who arrived from the UK for the show. He stars as Fagin, a key role in the show.

The group started rehearsals three months ago. The actors and actresses were all volunteers in the show. The adults had their day time job responsibilities and the kids

had to go to school, so they usually practiced in the evenings at Harold School or British School of Beijing. The time commitment was a big problem, but the group always turned up on time and turned in very good performances.

Based on *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens, the British musical was written by Lionel Bart. It first appeared in the West End in 1960. Alan Babington-Smith, in the part of Oliver's grandfather, had been participating in IFC's activities for five years. He thought there would be no difficulties for Chinese people to understand the typical British musical. "The story is very famous all over the world, though the musical has a typical Western style," he said. "It is a standard school production in the UK and the US. There are a lot of good songs."

Jane Raison, a British freelance writer, said she was told

by one of her friends that the musical gave Beijing's expats great fun. "Without any hesitation I will be there with my friends," she said. "The chorus is good and it is especially suitable for families." She said the cheap prices would attract more people, especially the local English students.

IFC was founded by three British people: conductor Nicholas Smith and singers James Baer and Nancy Fraser. The three realized that there was clearly a demand for a choir of talented, amateur singers who wanted to join the Beijing musical community, while at the same time introducing Chinese audiences to Western classical music. IFC made itself stand out in March of 2002, when it staged a performance of Mozart's Requiem at the Forbidden City Concert Hall. Since then the chorus has established itself as Beijing's premier choir.

Greek director does it for God, not green

By Han Manman

Greek theatrical director Theodoros Terzopoulos has many titles: theater president, drama school dean, international theater festival president and he also popularized Greek ancient tragedy drama all over the world.

Now, two of his directed dramas, *Prometheus Bound* by Aeschylus and *Ajax* will be presented at the Central Drama Academy of China from Tuesday until June 6.

Child-like

On Tuesday afternoon, obviously weary, Theodoros Terzopoulos asked many times when the interview would be finished. He was anxious to use this last several hours to give final direction to a performance by the Central Drama Academy.

During the interview, Terzopoulos was like a child, jumping joyfully and expressing himself through exaggerated body language.

This time, he will show the audience a special body-drama performance style. Chang Li, professor of The Central Drama Academy, also Zhang Ziyi's former director, said, it is the first of its kind in China's dramatic circles.

Rewrite at record speed

The one month experience was unforgettable, not only for the students but also for Terzopoulos.

"He was surprised when he witnessed my students' first performance and felt they were not on the same page," Chang said. "Terzopoulos laboriously re-wrote a special plan in record time to train the students," Chang said.

For Terzopoulos, the collaboration was interesting even though the beginning was difficult.

He said when he first met



Greek director passes on pearls of wisdom.

Photo provided by Greek Embassy

the students, "they were loose in every way." After one month of special attention and tough no-nonsense direction, the result finally satisfied the director.

Money for nothing

Terzopoulos is also the chairman of the International Theatre Olympics, the biggest international theatre festival which attracts innumerable countries to participate every time.

Terzopoulos said the biggest threat to the world of drama is television. He said many drama schools are now sculpting talents for the TV industry. "Drama is poor and few are willing to help the art form. Politicians never need drama and television has become their weapon," he said.

"Actors sometimes became political tools and they forget what they have learned before," the director said.

Terzopoulos also admitted that many "soap dramas" are very successful and attract big box office returns but that type of success is short-lived. He said, "I have no interest in directing such work. I only do drama for God."

"Money means nothing to me. I distrust anyone who offers me a large amount of money."

Terzopoulos said he will never give up his pursuit of creating high quality dramas and never bow to money.

Curtain up

Tonight, Terzopoulos will present *Ajax* with his ATTIS theatre. The drama is a study on some elementary subjects

to which the tragedy draws attention, like betrayal, revenge, madness, suicide and remorse, elements absent from the contemporary world.

Theodoros Terzopoulos shook the world's theatrical landscape in 1986 with his production of the *Bacchae*. His presentation was a radically groundbreaking initiative advocating the disengagement of tragedy from the bonds of traditional interpretation and established prototypes. The concept of violence guides the audience through the performances of the "ATTIS" theatre enabling them to decode Terzopoulos' scenic idiom first presented in 1985 and revised ever since: physical violence and ritual violence.

German violinist fiddles for quake victims

By Li Fenghua

German violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, who balances contemporary and traditional works, performed at the National Center for the Performing Arts on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The revenue from the concerts will be donated through the International Red Cross to the disaster areas of China. "I hope my music and donation can help them and I expect more musicians will do likewise," Mutter said.

"For years, I have realized that a musician should do a lot. I founded a fund to help many young musicians to continue their passion for music. I also donate a lot to help the old, disabled, children and patients. I try to bring some light to their lives," she said.

Mutter is always very happy to see children come to hear her play. "The children are the best listeners. They are honest and natural. They will show their dislike if they don't like the concert. I brought my children to the concert and operas when they were just 4 or 5 years old. It is very helpful for their development," she said.

Mutter started playing at age 5, and has since been associated with tutors such as Erna Honigberger and Aida Stucki, a pupil of Carl Flesch. She soon enjoyed great success in many events, and notably the Lucern Festival in 1976, which drew the attention of Maestro Karajan and she auditioned for him in Berlin shortly after, at the age of 13.

Since her highly-acclaimed Berlin debut with Karajan and the Berliner Philharmoniker in 1978, her live performances as well as her recordings have attracted attention and praise. Recently, Anne-Sophie Mutter has increasingly turned her attention to contemporary music.

7

Debate



Eastern and western viewpoints meet here



洋腔论见

文化差异的碰撞与融合



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7

Debate

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Quake simulator teaches shaky lesson

By Zhang Dongya

After the disastrous earthquake in Wenchuan, Sichuan Province on May 12, Beijing residents began to pay much more attention to prevention and preparation for earthquakes. Some earthquake equipment designed to simulate such a disaster drew attention recently in the city and people had a chance to experience a big quake and learn what to do during such a happening. There are two museums in Beijing offering citizens a chance to learn and it's free.

Beijing Fire and Safety Museum in Daxing

Introduced in 2003, the earthquake simulator at the Beijing Fire and Safety Museum was the first such chance for citizens to experience a quake and gain relative knowledge in China. The machine can show different magnitudes of earthquakes from 3 to 8 on the Richter scale and reproduce the sensation when an earthquake occurs.

The machine was set up in a room equipped with some home appliances. When the machine was turned on, the whole room began to shake and sway and some appliances even fell over. Roaring crash and sound effects filled the room.

About seven or eight people can experience the simulated quake at a time and the shaky experience lasts for nearly one minute. The gas was left on to see if people would remember to turn it off during an earthquake.



Primary school students visited the earthquake museum in Haidian District.

Photo by Hu Xuemei

The museum only receives groups, and each is required to make appointments in advance.

Where: Beijing Fire-fighting Education and Training Center, Keyuanlu, Industry Development Zone, Daxing

Open hour: 9 am - 4 pm (Monday - Friday)

Tel: 6929 1119 ext 2415/2416

Haidian Public Safety Museum

It is simple and easy to set up

the earthquake simulator at the Haidian Public Safety Museum, compared with that of Daxing. Both group and individual visitors are accepted during its hours of operation, and groups are required to make an appointment seven days in advance.

Young parents often chose to visit the museum with their kids on weekends. Nearly 12 or 13 people can experience the simulated one-minute-quake

with a magnitude of 6 or 7 on the machine. Special curators will teach the children what to do. People can also watch a video at the museum showing how to deal with such a natural disaster.

Where: 2, Xinjian gongmenlu, Wanquanheqiao, Northwest Fourth Ring, Haidian

Open hours: 9 am - 4 pm (Wednesday - Sunday)

Tel: 6288 7787, 6288 0050

Room to park, picture show all coming

By Annie Wei

1,300 visitor parking spaces at 798 soon

Chaoyang district's government will make 1,300 parking spaces free to visitors in 798 art district July.

So far, 798 has 300 culture organizations and personal studios. It is estimated that there are over 10,000 visitors to this area per day. However, most buildings here were built 60 years ago and currently there are only 400 parking spaces.

Therefore, the local government authority decided to build 10 parking lots and a vertical parking building to solve this problem.

Five-star rooms, 70 percent booked

According to the tourism bureau's latest data, the average price for a five-star hotel room is 3,263 yuan and 1,556 yuan for a three-star room during the Olympic Games.

So far, 77 percent of all five-star hotel rooms have been booked, Xiong Yumei, vice-director of Beijing Tourism Bureau said and most hotel room have



More parking space for 798 visitors.

Photo by Zhang Kaixin

already been booked out.

Xiong said the tourism bureau and statistics bureau monitored the hotel prices every 15 days.

The price increased 160 percent compared to the same time last year for five-star hotels, 320 percent with three-star hotels.

There are 5,800 hotels in Beijing to provide accommodations during the Games, with about 336,000 rooms.

Lukou, music tour

Nery, a well-known French musician invited Belgium band Belgistan and China musician Bai Long to perform together on a music tour.

Belgistan is a new-generation music band combining jazz and hip-hop. Bai Long, is a singer specializing in the Mongolian horse-head string instrument.

The music tour will start

from Beijing, and then travel to Dalian, Nanjing, Wuhan, Xi'an and Chengdu.

When: June 4, 7: 30 pm

Tel: 6404 2711

Cost: Free

Regards Croises sur l'enfance - photography exhibition

Frenchman Georges Azenstarck and Zhu Jianmin are two experienced photographers. Azenstarck was born in 1934 and has worked as a photo-journalist for the l'humanité since 1956. He founded an association for photo-journalists with other famous people like Marcel Deluis, Louis Lucchesi and Jean Claude Seine. He focuses on average people in their daily life and at work.

Zhu was born in 1943 and is now vice-chairman of the China Photographer Association.

This exhibition displays their favorite photos: children from China and other countries.

Where: Guangcai Guojigongyu, Gongti Ximen, Chunxiu Lu, Chaoyang district,

When: May 30 - June 1

Tel: 6553 2678

Cost: Free

ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: weiyang@ynet.com

After hearing people talking about how awful the Silk Market is, I wondered if there are any ways for people like me, who are not good at bargaining, to enjoy the process of shopping in China?

Don't pick up a coat and show excitement; don't say something in your native tongue that you don't want anyone to hear; go alone; don't be rude. Start low, and don't go up, never say a price you don't want to pay, check the wares when you pay, refer to something, exploit their weaknesses, ask for a price first and leave a modest offer.

Do you know how to buy a Harley Davidson in Beijing?

If you are heading north up East Fourth Ring Road, go past the east gate of Chaoyang Park, and after you pass the petrol station, turn right onto Dongfeng Nanlu. The store is about 200 meters along the road on the left (north) side. If traveling north up Sihuan and you get to the Liangmaqiao intersection, you've gone too far north. There is a Harley Davidson store just east of East Fourth Ring Road.

As my parents and brothers will be arriving in July, I'm looking for somewhere to take them. We have already planned to spend one week in Beijing and then one week in Lijiang. I still have to find another place where we could spend a week. Any suggestions?

You could continue from Yunnan Province to Guangxi, spend three or four days in Guilin and Yangshuo to see the dragon's backbone, rice terraces and the Karst Mountains. Then, go to Hong Kong and Macao for the rest of the week, and your family could fly home from Hong Kong.

The Western Union website isn't working properly, so I can't find any locations. Does anyone know of a location in or around Dongcheng district or Dongzhimen? Does the sender need to know where to send it?

There's one across the street (north) of Worker's Stadium, in a post office and the sender does not need to know where to send it. You need to show your passport and know each other's names and addresses. The sender will receive an ID number and you tell it to the Western Union person when you pick it up.

(By Bai Jingnan)

China Athletics Open concludes, Bird's Nest pre-tested

By Han Manman

In just 70 days time, the eyes of the sporting world will fall on China's "Bird's Nest," home to the Olympic opening ceremony and athletic events and which successfully passed its first major test last weekend by staging the China Athletics Open.

The Nest

Outside North Fourth Ring Road, in the center of the Olympic complex and alongside the northern extension of Beijing's central axis, there stands the magnificent National Stadium, also called the "Bird's Nest."

Structural elements of the construction mutually support each other and converge into a grid-like formation – almost like an actual bird's nest with its interwoven twigs. The overall design combines both traditional Chinese cultural elements and nature-oriented modern architectural design concepts. Located on a gentle rise in the center of the Olympic complex, the Bird's Nest, together with the nearby Water Cube, represent the traditional Chinese concept of "round heaven and square earth," as well as the "Qian-kun" and "Yin-yang" ideas. The sacred flame of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad will be lit up here on August 8, signaling the opening of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

An undulating composition of high and low elevations moderates the bulk of the vessel and gives it a

dramatic sweeping form. The design meets all the functional and technical requirements of an Olympic Stadium, without communicating the insistent sameness of technocratic architecture dominated by large spans and digital screens. The spatial effect of the stadium is novel and radical, yet simple and of an almost archaic immediacy, thus creating a unique historical landmark for the 2008 Olympics.

The stadium, which can seat a maximum of 91,000 spectators, will host the opening and closing ceremonies of the Beijing Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, as well as the track and field competitions and football finals. The main body of the National Stadium is designed to last for 100 years, with first-rate fire resistance, and the capacity to resist magnitude 8 earthquake.

International Olympic Committee vice president Kevan Gosper earlier praised the quality of the organization of the four-day event. "It went like clockwork," Gosper said.

Strict security

The authorities also tried out the toughest-ever security checks for the Games. Cadets, temporarily recruited from police academies, checked visitors after they passed security inspection gates.

Bottled water and lighters, in addition to hazardous materials, were officially banned from being brought into the stadium. Candy and chewing gum are also prohibited. The security inspectors will ask you to test skin care products on yourself if they are found in your bag.

Many visitors said this time the security process was much better than April's "IAAF Walking Challenge", which was also held in the Bird's Nest. "The last security inspection was so tight and sluggish that it took up to a half hour and many vis-

itors felt anxious," one audience member Zhang Ran, said. He said this time it only took a few minutes, which means procedures have been greatly improved.

Security staff were also efficient, but respectful in their checks, offering a sincere "thank you for your cooperation" when finished.

At the China Athletics Open, there is no traffic control around the Bird's Nest, but according to the Beijing Public Security Bureau, strict traffic control will be "definitely implemented" during the Games. The bureau said there will be a special parking lot near the stadium but is still three to five kilometers away from it. So the bureau suggested Olympic visitors use public transportation at that time. There will be many special bus lines direct to the stadium during the Olympics.



Liu Xiang captured an easy victory with a time of 13.18 seconds in the 110-meter hurdles final last Wednesday.

"Flying man's" debut

World champion hurdler Liu Xiang, 24, was among over 1,000 athletes including more than 100 overseas competitors lining up last week to give Beijing's new National Stadium a full dress rehearsal for the Olympic Games.

The highlight came last Saturday, when 24-year-old Liu Xiang, the world record holder of the 110-meter hurdles, captured an easy victory with a time of 13.18 seconds, not far off his best mark of 12.88 seconds.

"Today the atmosphere was very good, I hope the Bird's Nest will be the place where my second dream begins," Liu said. He obviously didn't exert full strength on the last few steps finishing the dash. "I am going to prepare for the forthcoming event in the US."

"The purpose for me to compete in the US event is to test my strength," Liu said, "So I'm going to see how well I can do at the last event before the Olympics."

For Liu, participating in the event was a valuable chance to test the Mondo-rubberized Olympic track surface for the first time. "It reaches international stan-

dards. It is not too soft and not too hard," Liu said.

Liu made a second false start in the competition, following his first false start in the semi-finals. "I didn't mean to do it," he said. "I just wanted to start with the gun, but I was a bit early."

However, his coach Sun Haiping said the reason for Liu's two false starts is because the Chinese officials are a little slow with the starting gun, compared with international standards.

"International race starters and Chinese race starters are not the same when it comes to firing the starting pistol," Sun said. He said international officials are quick on the trigger while the Chinese are slow.

That will create problems for Liu at the August 8-24 Olympic Games during which Chinese officials will start the races, Sun said. "This incident sounded alarm bells for us. We are going to have to arrange something in training to counteract this so he can get used to the Chinese way and avoid any problems at the Olympics," Sun was quoted as saying on the Yahoo China Web site on Sunday.

Comment



I've been to many Olympic venues. This is the best stadium I've ever seen. The volunteers did a great job. I was impressed by their smiles.

– **Vinoy, 33, a journalist from France**



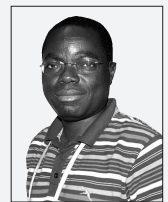
The volunteers are not internationally minded. They should treat all people the same way, whether they are from foreign countries or local. That is the mature way. They are too student-like. Another thing is that the detail is not as good as on other stadiums, such as the color of the tables and chairs. They should match the colors of the whole stadium.

– **Zhao Long, 27, a sports writer from CCTV-9**



I am responsible for the press room. The journalists are very easy to handle. No one has been difficult. Only regular, common problems are presented and I can enjoy the spectacular competitions.

– **Li Xiangzhou, 22, a volunteer from the Republic of Korea**



The volunteers are just perfect, smiling, kind and always available for help. But it can be too loud from time to time in the stadium.

– **Antoine Azorly, 44, an IOC official from Switzerland**

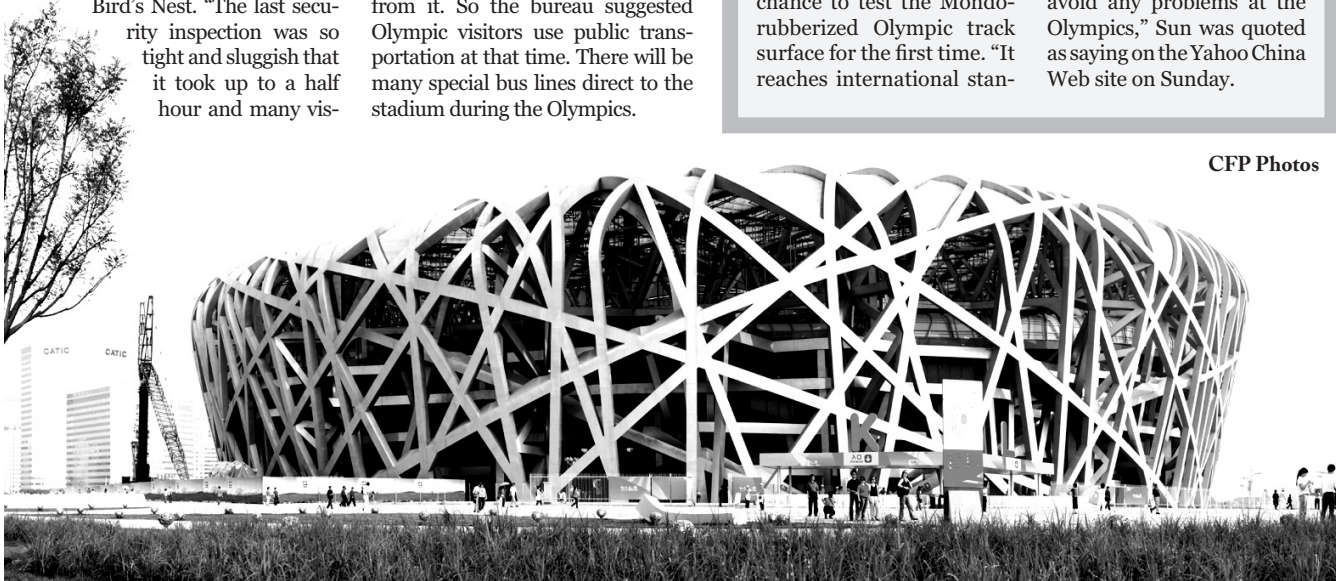


There are no obvious signs on the steps of the stands. People might fall down. But the big things are OK. But I have to say that it is too loud inside the National Stadium. I have to yell all the time.

– **David Tomez, 37, an IT consultant from Spain**

Photos by Li Fenghua
(By Li Fenghua)

CFP Photos



NDT: young and old faces



Jiri Kylian

By Gan Tian

Nederlands Dans Theater II (NDT II), made its China debut at the Beijing PLA Theater last Friday evening. The troupe gave three performances in two hours: *Sleepless*, *Dream Play* and *Minus 16*, ushering in a fresh breeze to the city's old ballet circle. All three pieces are very different from each other and were created by three different choreographers, who each had a big influence on NDT. "I believe it is a good combination of different aspects of contemporary dance to show the diversity of this art form," Gerald Tibbs, artistic leader of NDT II, said.

What NDT does could be called "contemporary ballet." It is also NDT's aim to explore the works of younger choreographers with new ideas. "Since we are doing pioneer work here in China with our performances, we selected very different and diverse programs," Tibbs said.



Sleepless goes from headless bodies to passionate love



Passionate love in a scene from Sleepless

Sleepless: Dark desires and demons

Jiri Kylian has already created many masterpieces, one of them the fascinating *Sleepless*, a production for six young dancers in which the set plays an important part. It has a wall behind which dancers, or sometimes just parts of their bodies, appear, disappear and return. The set allows unexpected entrances or creates nightmarish images of heads which, in a grotesque way, do not appear to be attached to their bodies.

In the opening scene, a female dancer appears alone in the stage, dressed in black. She stretches her body, twists and bends slowly, each movement is contorted. The solo piece expresses a woman's horror at the dark-

ness of night. Later a man and woman appear on stage, with brighter light focused on them. Both show smooth and passionate movements towards each other and the desire of sex, was shown vividly when the pair jumped and stretched.

Tibb's comments:

The first piece is Sleepless. The choreographer Jiri Kylian has been the artistic director of all the NDT companies for 24 years and the piece was especially created for NDT II. Kylian represents the heritage of the company as he has been with it since 1975.

Dream Play: Reality removed

Dream Play tells the story of a man meeting a girl in the spring. Then he dreams of an erotic and aggression-filled game between four men

and two women.

The dance in the opening is in a spring forest, where the boy can sense the streams, sunflowers and a princess. However, the scene sharply transforms into a desperate, horrible dream. The boy's desire – he falls in love with a stranger, is then tortured by a figure flitting around him and then enters the dream.

With the sound of a guitar, the boy awakes, lying in the spring. The birds, sunshine, streams and flowers are all back in his life. The boy, dressed as a prince, meets a girl at him, and then disappears.

Tibb's comments:

The second piece, Dream Play, is also a dancer in NDT I. With the opportunity to create

of ballet



Weird dancer is mimicked by background dancers in Minus 16

Photos provided by Wu Promotion



Dream becomes nightmare in Dream Play



Dreamer is teased by a stranger in Dream Play



An erotic game in Dream Play

NDT history

Established in 1959, the Nederlands Dans Theatre (NDT) was initially a group of 18 dancers who broke away from the then traditional-oriented company. The troupe then focused on exploring new forms of dance, new techniques and broadening its act with new ideas and fresh experimentation. Although all the dancers have been classically trained, it is modern dance rather than ballet that NDT performs in, at the highest international level. With Harkavy, van Manen, Solokow and Tetley involved, the group was notably the most innovative and exciting dance group in Europe by the late 1960s.

NDT I, the main company, founded in 1959, now comprises 31 dancers between the ages of 22 and 40, each of whom has outstanding solo talent and collectively have won the company worldwide acclaim. NDT II, featuring young dancers between the ages of 17 and 22, was founded in 1978. Now it has 14 dancers who bring youthful vigor, breathtaking athleticism and brilliant technique to a range of challenging contemporary dance works.

NDT III was not that lucky. It disbanded years ago because it lacked money. It was established in 1991 as a company for experienced dancers older than 40 years of age. The dancers excelled in creating a complete theatrical experience, applying the fruits of their vast experience to achieve standards of excellence combining modern and classical dance with mime, drama, comedy, bodily expressions and, at times, song. Choreographers employed the unique gifts of each of the dancers to create masterworks of subtlety and refinement.

With years of development and mastery, NDT is currently made up of two ensembles representing two generations of dancers: junior talents starting their careers in NDT II and seasoned veterans complimenting NDT I.

for both companies. We have many such "in-house choreographers." This is one element we wanted to represent in the program.

Minus 16: A free-for-all

The closing piece, Minus 16, is very light, cheering up the audience. The piece does not have an official opening scene. A man in a formal black suit appears center stage accidentally during the mid-break, without any notice. He gradually makes some comical movements and expressions accompanied by light music, twisting his legs, bending his waist and prancing around effeminately.

The curtain finally goes up revealing all the dancers mimicking his strange movements greatly contrasting their formal attire.

Then the music stops suddenly and is replaced by the spoken words of each dancer, expressing their own experience in NDT II. Each dancer appears on stage, performing a solo dance and offering interesting narrations. "My name is Andy – actually it is Andria, but everybody calls me Andy," or "I am a single girl. My email address is..." The funniest was, "I had a boyfriend in the company. We bought a house, and he cooked very well, especially his yellow soup." Later the boyfriend appears and says, "I had a girlfriend here. We bought a house. I like cooking. I got a lot of compliments on my yellow soup."

This part of the performance showed the different attitudes and sides of the troupe members with regard to their dancing careers – growing pains, loves, dreams, relationships between mothers and daughters. It let

the audience peek inside each dancer's personal life.

In the show closing, every dancer descended into the audience and invited them on stage to join in the dance.

Minus 16 is a phenomenal work for all the dancers of NDT II, set to a thrilling musical compilation of cha-cha, mambo and traditional Israeli music. This choreography, Ohad Naharin, created it by combining previous works of Naharin: Zachacha, Anaphase, Sabotage Baby and Moshe.

Tibb's comments:

The third piece is *Minus 16* by Ohad Naharin, a choreographer from Israel. He came to NDT in the 1990's and has been a very important outside influence, as his work is totally different. He has his own ballet company, but we continue to collaborate with him on a regular basis.

Turkish novelist Orhan Pamuk won't put down pen after Nobel

By He Jianwei

"I have finished a new 600-page novel and submitted it to my publisher. I want to prove to the world that the Nobel Prize is not a sign that I should be off collecting a pension," the Nobel Prize-winning Turkish novelist Orhan Pamuk said May 21 at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

The appearance was Pamuk's first visit to China and first meeting with his readers here. During the 10-day visit, Pamuk also spoke at Beijing University on May 24, signed books at Beijing Books Building on May 25 and is winding down his tour in Shaoxing, Zhejiang Province and Shanghai.

Split audiences

When Pamuk was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2006, he became the award's first Turkish recipient. Since recognition by the Nobel committee, Chinese translations of his books have trickled out.

Chinese readers first encountered Pamuk in *My Name is Red* (translated by Shen Zhixing, 500pp, Shanghai People's Publishing House, 29 yuan). "Readers in different continents have different preferences. In China, *My Name is Red* is the most popular one; in the US, *Snow* (480pp, Vintage, US \$14.95) is most popular; in Spain, the pick is *Istanbul: Memories and the City* (400pp, Vintage, US \$14.95)," Pamuk said.

"Readers in non-Western countries have a great tradition and glorious history. They wish to enjoy the achievements of modernization and become economically richer. But in the process of modernization, will they give up their traditions? *My Name is Red* addressed this question and dealt with the dilemma," he said.

Nobel not awarded for retirement

After he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2007, British writer Doris Lessing complained bitterly that her life was empty. However, Pamuk did not consider a Nobel award as a sign he had nowhere to go but down.

"When I received a message on my mobile phone about the award, I was asleep at Columbia University. I called my publisher and promised him it wouldn't affect my life," he said.

But his life did change after he received the award. "The one thing that didn't change is that I'm still writing," he said.

Pamuk recently finished a new book that he hopes will join the canon of world literature.

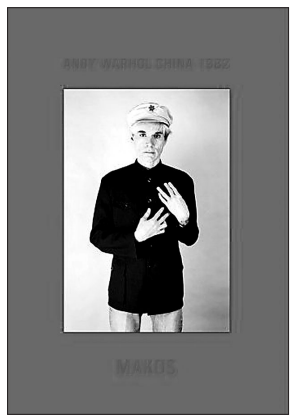
Looking back at quakes

Pamuk delivered his condolences for the victims of Sichuan's earthquake. "I followed the news on television. As a Turk, it brought back bitter memories," he said.

He was a witness to the earthquake that rocked Turkey in 1999, and wrote an essay to record the experience.

"I can understand the disaster. In 1999, many people died in [Turkey's] earthquake. I know what aftershocks entail," he said.

He said he would give all the money from book signings and sales to college students in Beijing from the disaster area.



Pictures document Andy Warhol's visit to China in 1982

By He Jianwei

Pop Art master Andy Warhol was already a big name in the US and Europe, but he was unknown in China when he visited in 1982.

Cristopher Makos's *Andy Warhol in China: The Photographs of Christopher Makos* (88pp, Timezone 8, US \$ 75), released in Beijing on May 25 at Timezone 8 in 798 Art District, documents Warhol's visit with a unique glimpse into the icon's life from his personal photographer.

During their trip, Warhol visited Tian'anmen Square, the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and Wangfujing Street. On seeing Chairman Mao's portrait at Tian'anmen Square, Warhol said, "I painted Mao about 400 times. I used to see how many I could do in a day. I love his book. I read it all the time. I like the simple thoughts."

"I took all fun, candid shots. I photographed him traveling around Beijing at first, but then more of the

artist being surprised by all the strangeness, at least for a New Yorker," Makos said.

Makos became known in the 1970s for his candid shots of Warhol. Henry Geldzahler, the former Curator of Contemporary Art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York wrote: "It is a great asset in Chris Makos' photographs that they reveal new and unfamiliar faces of the legendary pop figure."

Although he worked with one of the giants in modern art, Makos says he wasn't fazed by working with Warhol.

"He wasn't an iconic figure to me. It was more like hanging out with a young guy from Southern California, who really didn't care about his success. I was more interested in him as a clever, interesting person," he said.

"I am coming back to China to show my book to the Chinese, and to show them what I am doing now, which is respecting my past, but showing my present," he said.



Photo by
Zhou Xiaodong



CNPIEC Bookstore book listing

The China National Publication Import and Export Corporation's (CNPIEC) bookstore recommends the following new arrivals to *Beijing Today* readers.

Sense of Style: Space

By Shannon Fricke, 160pp, Murdoch Books, 220 yuan

Interior stylist Shannon Fricke presents the design tools needed to create home decor that reflects its owner's individuality. Her approach combines sensory awareness with practical skills and a basic grasp of design fundamentals. Shot by

leading interiors photographer Prue Ruscoe, *Space* has a relaxed, eclectic visual style that is sophisticated and cutting edge, but always accessible and engaging.

The Tenth Circle

By Jodi Picoult, 385pp, Hodder Paperbacks, 90 yuan

When Daniel Stone was a child, he was the only white boy in a native Eskimo village. He fought back, the baddest of the bad kids: stealing, drinking and robbing. To become part of a family, he reinvented himself to become a docile, devoted hus-

band and father. Fifteen years later, Daniel becomes a comic book artist and has a happy family.

Armed Madhouse

By Greg Palast, 432pp, Penguin Group, 110 yuan

Digging up reams of documents marked "secret" and "confidential," Palast provides the latest lowdown on Bush's secret plans to seize Iraq's oil, the fix planned for the 2008 election, who drowned New Orleans and the horror and the humor of the "War on Terror."

(By Zhang Dongya)



Make the switch to low-carbon living

By He Jianwei

"A low carbon life" is one of the focal points of environmental protection this year. In April, at the 2008 Boao Forum for Asia, Rajendra Pachauri, chairman of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, said the world is moving towards a low carbon future and companies that come up with low-carbon solutions first will benefit most.

It is not only an issue related to governments and companies, but also important for individuals. Some Chinese people, especially those who work in NGOs, already maintain a low-carbon lifestyle both in and out of the office.

Trace your carbon footprint

Wang Xue, a former employee in the Conservation International China Program, an NGO which protects biodiversity, has maintained a low-carbon life for more than two years. "Employees in Conservation International must calculate how much carbon we consume in our daily life," she said.

Climate change is the greatest challenge facing humanity: drastic reduction of carbon emissions is vital if humans are to avoid global devastation. "Governments and businesses have been slow to act, so individuals need to take the lead," she said.

Wang showed the statistics that Earth can absorb no more than three tons of carbon diox-

ide emissions each year for each person on the planet if we are to keep temperature and rainfall change within tolerable limits.

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the primary greenhouse gas in our atmosphere. This means that the amount of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere directly influences how much of the sun's heat stays in the atmosphere, which is a key factor in climate change.

One ton of carbon dioxide is released when you travel 8,000 kilometers in an airplane, drive 4,000 kilometers in a medium-sized car, or cut down and burn a tree that was about 0.3 meters in diameter and 12 meters tall.

Flying

"We realize that sometimes people have no choice but to fly, but the best thing for the planet is if you don't fly at all, the resulting emissions can often represent the biggest chunk of your carbon footprint," she said.

Wang is often called away on business. If she can reach to the destinations by train, then she will not take an airplane. If she has to take a plane, she will calculate how much carbon she consumes.

"I always go abroad to have meetings with other NGOs. It's best to fly direct rather than have a layover, because airplanes use a lot of fuel during take off and landing," she said.

At the office

"As a NGO which protects biodiversity, my boss told us the office was the first place we needed to make green," she said.

First, they tried their best to save electricity. They use the lights they need to and turn them off in unused rooms. "We got used to turning off our computer monitors when we leave at the end of the day," Wang said.

If there is no need to turn on the air conditioner, they will keep the window open and save more energy.

Secondly, they save paper as much as possible. "Before we print, we decide whether we really need hard copies, or can the material just be saved on the computer. If we have to print, we will use both sides of the paper," she said.

At home

"Reduce, reuse and recycle are three keywords. I have tried my best to improve the efficiency of my home," she said.

Wang switched out all her lights to use energy-saving bulbs. The bulbs last around 10 times longer than ordinary light bulbs and will save money.

Electric irons use a huge amount of energy. "If it's a nice day, I dry my clothes outside," she said.

Before she leaves home, she unplugs every outlet, because "they still use energy," she said.

When she uses a washing machine, she will ensure there is a full load and turns down the temperature. "If I wash a T-shirt in cool water rather than warm, and hang it out to dry, the carbon dioxide emissions created by that shirt can be reduced by 85 to 90 percent," she said.

The location of the fridge also makes a difference in how energy effi-

cient it is.

"Make sure it is out of direct sunlight and not close to the oven. Keeping it against an outside wall will help the heat it generates escape easily, and always make sure that there is space around the fridge so air can circulate," she said.

She only sets her fridge to as cold as she needs and avoids keeping the door open for long periods of time. The more cold air that escapes, the harder the fridge has to work. She checks its seals regularly to prevent cold air from escaping.

"I never put warm or hot food in the fridge, as this will make the fridge work extra hard to try and keep it cold; always allow food to cool down first," she said.

As for her diet, she buys locally-grown organic food. "I eat less meat, because producing one calorie of meat requires a lot more land and energy, compared to one calorie of vegetables," she said.

How to calculate how much carbon you use

There is a chart for how to calculate how much carbon you use when you use appliances per hour.

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Television | 966 grams |
| Hair drier | 552 grams |
| Washing machine | 290 grams |
| Computer host | 173 grams |
| Notebook PC | 13.8 grams |
| Energy-saving bulbs | 11.7 grams |

You can also calculate from the following Web sites:

hinature.cn/product/calc.asp
acca21.org.cn/eser/counter/index.htm



CFP Photos

By Gan Tian

Starting next week, supermarkets will not be allowed to provide their customers with free plastic bags. So, after you get yourself a trendy plastic bag, do not forget to pick up the kind of woven basket that was popular the last century. You can still see older people using them today. Think the idea is corny? The following items will hopefully change your thinking.



Fortune basket

Though it looks like any other woven basket, it stands apart from the others with one small addition, the Chinese character "xi" attached. The character means fortune, luck, happiness or any other good things in Chinese. Bring one home and you bring luck with it.

Available: Aizaijia, 50 meters east of the new CCTV tower, Chaoyang District
Price: 45 yuan



Bed-shaped basket

This bamboo basket, shaped like a bed, can even hold a baby if you want. It is very well constructed. However, I found it a little unattractive. Maybe that is why it is so cheap.

Available: F5, Huawei Shopping Mall, Xidan, Xicheng District
Price: 59 yuan



Bamboo covered basket

The stylish red hand-made antique Asian bamboo basket has a curved handle and a lid. The price may shock you, US\$63. Can bamboo really cost that much? This is a product of Harris Marcus Home, who is a leader in innovative styles and captivating vignettes in the Dallas and Las Vegas Market. Now you know the reason for the hefty price tag.

Available: bellacor.com
Price: US \$63

Traditional basket

This is the typical basket grannies use when they go to the morning market



for some vegetables and fruits. Four positive points about this basket: easy to make, easy to carry, economical, and no ugly patterns. It is the best for those who believe beauty is found in simplicity.

Available: F5, Huawei Shopping Mall, Xidan, Xicheng District

Price: 30 yuan for the small one, 50 yuan for the large one

Wonderful world of wicker



Gentleman's coffee basket

If you want to enjoy a colorful holiday then this gentleman's coffee basket could fill the bill. It is actually a holiday gift. The bamboo woven basket comes in four sizes with a lid; making it a great gift when all the popcorn, jelly beans, cookies and chocolates are gone. By the way, they have a "ladies" version as well.

Available: selectagram.com
Price: US \$40

Wicker history

The oldest known baskets have been carbon dated to between 10,000 and 12,000 years old. Other baskets have been discovered in the Middle East that are up to 7,000 years old. However, baskets seldom survive, as they are made from perishable materials. The most common evidence showing the history of basketry is an imprint of the weave on fragments of clay pots, formed by packing clay on the walls of the basket and firing.

During the Industrial Revolution, baskets were used in factories for packing and deliveries. Wicker furniture became fashionable in Victorian society. During the world wars thousands of baskets were used

for transporting messenger pigeons. There were also observational balloon baskets, baskets for shell cases and airborne pannier baskets used for dropping supplies of ammunition and food to the troops.

The technique of weaving has been passed along, re-discovered, and expanded upon throughout the years and is still being expanded upon today. Baskets were at one time used simply for storage and transportation of goods. Decoration was an afterthought at best. Today, functional baskets are still in use, but many are made for more decorative purposes. Patterns and "how to" books are available for anyone to learn the craft.



Colorful basket

It is also a bamboo-woven basket but more colorful. The green, purple and yellow strips make anyone who uses it a fashionable, trendy shopper. Keep in mind, it can only carry one or two apples, or a bunch of bananas at most. Beauty conflicts with function.

Available: 40, Qinghua Dong Lu, Haidian District

Price: 28 yuan for a small one, 40 yuan for a large one

Adding more color to your 'balanced' diet

By Gan Tian

David Heber, director of the UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, published *What Color Is Your Diet?* last year. Its Chinese edition, due later this year, looks set to challenge the country's millennia-old dining habits.

Red protecting your heart

Nutritional research shows that red and bright pink fruits and vegetables contain phytochemicals, such as lycopene and anthocyanins. Phytochemicals, substances found only in plants, help your body fight disease and promote good health.

Watermelon, guava, pink grapefruit and fresh tomato all belong to the red family. Other red fruits and vegetables, such as strawberries, raspberries and beets contain anthocyanins, a group of phytochemicals that are powerful antioxidants that help control high blood pressure and protect against diabetes-related circulatory problems.



Green protecting your livers

Green fruits and vegetables are common everyday foods. They contain varying amounts of potent phytochemicals, such as lutein and indoles, which interest researchers because of their potential antioxidants, health-promoting benefits. Go green every day with fruits and vegetables like avocados, green apples, green grapes, honeydews, kiwifruits, limes, green pears, artichokes, green beans and green cabbage.



White protecting your lungs

The white family includes endive, garlic, ginger, parsnips, white peaches, pears, potatoes, white mushrooms and white corn. Actually, white, tan and brown fruits and vegetables contain varying amounts of phytochemicals of interest to scientists. These include allicin, found in the garlic and onion family. The mineral selenium, found in mushrooms, is also the subject of research.



Black protecting your kidney

Black beans, Chinese olives and black currants are all members of the black group. These are good for your kidneys.

Black beans are a very good source of cholesterol-lowering fiber, as are most other legumes. In addition to lowering cholesterol, their high fiber content prevents blood sugar levels from rising rapidly after a meal, making these beans a good choice for individuals with diabetes, insulin resistance or hypoglycemia. When combined with whole grains such as brown rice, black beans provide a virtually fat-free high quality protein. You may already be familiar with beans' fiber and protein.



Orange protecting your spleen

Oranges and tangerines certainly belong to this group. Other members include Hami melon, pumpkin and papaya. Oranges are an excellent source of vitamin C and contain some vitamin A, which is good for your spleen.

However, vitamin C dissipates quickly after an orange is cut or squeezed. Eight hours at room temperature or 24 hours in the refrigerator is enough to cause a 20 percent loss in vitamin C. Canned, bottled and frozen-concentrate orange juices have a greatly decreased vitamin C content.



Purple protecting your brain

Grapes, blueberries, blackberries, purple cabbages and onions all belong to the purple group. Purple fruits and vegetables contain varying amounts of health-promoting phytochemicals such as anthocyanins and phenolics, currently being studied for their antioxidant and anti-aging benefits.

Purple group foods are rich in the antioxidant monoterpenes that protect tissues from free radical damage. Aubergines are members of the solanaceae family, which includes peppers and tomatoes. In animal studies, rabbits fed aubergine were protected against the formation of plaque, even when fed a high cholesterol diet.

The active ingredients in the aubergines bind with cholesterol from the diet in the intestinal tract, thereby preventing it from entering the bloodstream.

Black adzuki beans are the quickest of all the beans to cook, the lowest in calories and the highest in nutritional content. The beans help detoxify the body – and, like all beans, are a good source of folic acid, which aids the formation of red blood cells. They also provide magnesium and copper, both of which are needed by the body to utilize vitamin C and calcium.



5

Friday, May 30

Exhibition

I Choose My Work – Yu Qian Painting and Ceramic Art Solo Exhibition



Where: Yu Qian Space, D 05-0-8, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang
When: Tue-Sun 11 am – 6 pm, until June 20
Admission: Free
Tel: 6433 7416

Tale of Whaling – Ouyang Chun Solo Exhibition

Where: Han Ji Yun Contemporary Space, A 1 Beigao, Cuigezhuang, Chaoyang
When: Daily 11 am – 7 pm, until June 15
Admission: Free
Tel: 6434 0266

Upcoming

Concert
The Philadelphia Orchestra Special Concert

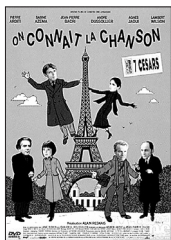
Who: The Philadelphia Orchestra
Where: Minorities Cultural Palace Theater, 49 Fuxingmen Nei Dajie, Xicheng
When: 7:30 pm, June 2
Admission: 280-1,680 yuan
Tel: 6602 2530

When Memory Exists Still – Bao Pei Solo Exhibition

Where: XYZ Gallery, D 06-6-1, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang
When: Tue-Sun 11 am – 6 pm, until June 20
Admission: Free
Tel: 8459 9299

Movie

On Connait la Chanson



Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang
When: 7:30 pm
Admission: 10-20 yuan
Tel: 6553 2627



Stage in June

Concert

French Piano Festival 2008

Who: David Krasumer
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng
When: 7:30 pm, June 6
Admission: 30-380 yuan
Tel: 6559 8306

Tong Vfang Xien Qi

Beijing Concert 2008
Who: Tong Vfang Xien Qi
Where: Fengtai Sports Center, Fengtai Bei Lu, Fengtai
When: 7:30 pm, June 13
Admission: 280-1,280 yuan
Tel: 6417 7845

Sound of the Century

Who: The Chinese National Orchestra
Where: Chinese National Orchestra Concert Hall, 15 Xiaoying Lu, Chaoyang
When: 7:30 pm, June 23-25
Admission: 50-380 yuan
Tel: 6491 9081

The Philadelphia Orchestra Special Concert

Who: The Philadelphia Orchestra
Where: Minorities Cultural Palace Theater, 49 Fuxingmen Nei Dajie, Xicheng
When: 7:30 pm, June 2
Admission: 280-1,680 yuan
Tel: 6602 2530

Concert by The Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra

Who: The Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra
Where: Beijing Music Hall, 1 Bei Xinhua Jie, Xicheng
When: 7:30 pm, June 19
Admission: 60-580 yuan
Tel: 6605 7006

Opera

Sleeping Beauty

Who: The Royal English Ballet
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: 7:30 pm, June 21-23
Admission: 100-1,080 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Nutcracker

Who: The St. Petersburg Children Ballet Theatre of Russia
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: 7:30 pm, June 6-9
Admission: 60-380 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Swan Lake

Who: Royal Swedish Ballet
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People
When: 7:30 pm, June 6-10
Admission: 100-1,080 yuan
Tel: 6655 0000

Fire Bird

Who: Ballet San Jose
Where: Poly Theater, 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang
When: June 13
Admission: 80-680 yuan
Tel: 6501 1854

(By Li Jing)

6

Saturday, May 31

Exhibition

Visual Digestion – Joint Exhibition



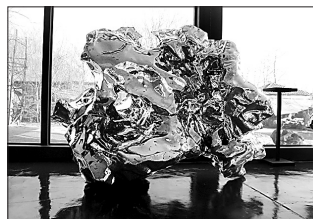
The exhibition features Li Xiangming, Bai Ming and Dang Zhaoyang,

Where: 3818 Cool Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang
When: Tue-Sun 10:30 am – 6:30 pm, until June 18
Admission: Free
Tel: 8688 2525, 8456 6664

Tai Ping You Xiang – Zeng Fanzhi Solo Exhibition

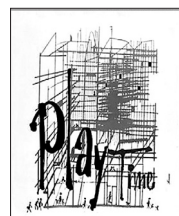
Where: ShanghART Gallery, 261 Caochangdi, Chaoyang
When: Tue-Sun 11 am – 6 pm, until September 2
Admission: Free

Tel: 6432 3202
Artist in Art History



Where: SZ Art Center, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang
When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until June 29
Admission: Free
Tel: 6435 9719

Movie
Play Time



Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang
When: 7:30 pm
Admission: 10-20 yuan
Tel: 6553 2627

7

Sunday, June 1

Exhibition

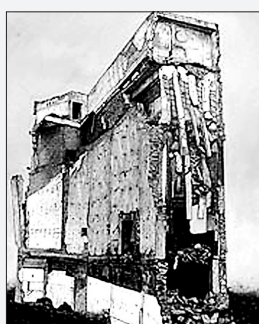
Su Zihan Solo Exhibition



Where: Bada Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 1 pm – 6:30 pm, until June 20
Admission: Free
Tel: 6433 5120

Memory or Reality Contemporary Art Exhibition



Amelie Gallery's Memory or Reality Contemporary Art Exhibition focuses on Chinese young artists' nostalgic sentiments.

Where: Amelie Art Gallery, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, between Red Gate and White Space Gallery

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 7 pm, until May 31
Admission: Free
Tel: 6530 7048

Where are we?

The joint exhibition features Lin Tianmao and other 11 other artists.
Where: Beijing Center for the Arts at Legation Quarter, 23 Qianmen Dong Dajie, Chongwen

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 10 pm, until July 15
Admission: Free
Tel: 6559 8008

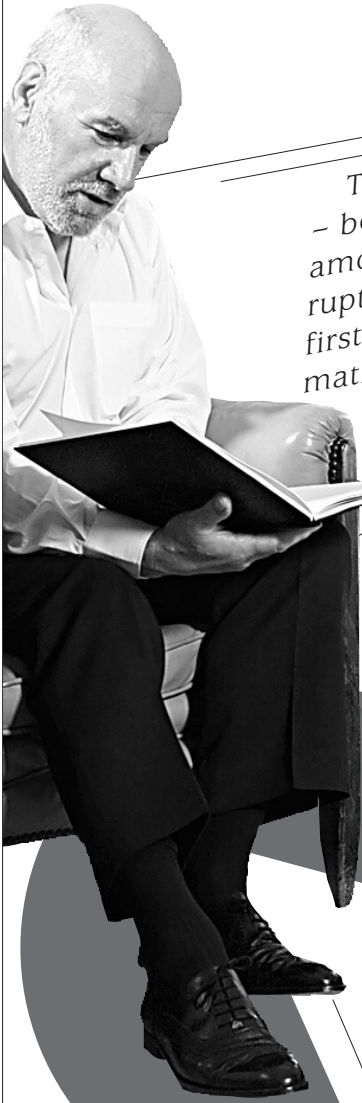
Movie

Irma Vep

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang
When: 3 pm
Admission: 10-20 yuan
Tel: 6553 2627



Post-Disaster Psychological Therapy



CFP Photo

Tips for psychological therapists

Providing care and support in the immediate aftermath of disaster can be an enriching professional and personal experience that enhances satisfaction through helping others. It can also be physically and emotionally exhausting. Several things should be considered before, during and after engaging in disaster relief work.

Before relief work, you should assess your comfort level with this type of work and your current health, family, and work circumstances. In providing psychological help, it is important to recognize common and extreme stress reactions and how best to take care of yourself during your work. After relief work a readjustment period is expected upon returning home. Therapists may need to make personal reintegration a priority for awhile

The earthquake has given many people – both victims and observers – varying amounts of internal trauma and disrupted their lives. Acute psychological first aid is urgently needed in the aftermath of the disaster.



Case 1

Patient: Liu Xiaohua

Style: Complex psychological trauma

Symptoms: Feeling like the experience is constantly reoccurring ("flashbacks")

Liu Xiaohua saw her classmates and teacher scream and die around her. When rescued she found herself to be an orphan. These experiences left her with deep pain and caused her to cry uncontrollably.

Psychologist Zhao Guoqiu talked to her at the Mianyang Children's Welfare Home.

"Where is the most comfortable place in your home?" Zhao asked.

"The sofa," the girl answered.

"Ok. Imagine you are on a sofa while talking with me," Zhao said patiently. He intended to use Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and the

cognitive regulating technique to erase the horrific memories from Liu's mind.

However, the session did not go smoothly and was reluctantly stopped when Liu refused to write a letter to her deceased parents. "It makes no sense to write a letter to them. They are gone," Liu said.

Zhao took Liu out of the tent and she played with other children. Afterwards, Zhao continued with the therapy until Liu stopped crying and said she could not remember the details of the disaster.

This session lasted seven hours. "Vulgar memory" means the therapy has been successful. But Zhao still worried about the girl. He said that a 12-year girl could not bear such trauma and she might think of the bloody scene again with no regular therapy at hand.

Tips for psychological therapy

You might say ...

- I feel very sad about what you experienced.
- You are safe (if he or she is safe).
- It is not your fault.
- Your reaction is reasonable when something abnormal happens.
- Your emotions are common. People experiencing such things are likely to have such feelings.
- What you see, hear, feel and smell is sad and painful.
- You are not crazy. You are normal.

- This type of stress takes time to resolve.
- Don't constrain your feelings. Express what you feel, like crying or showing anger.

Do not say ...

- I know how you feel.
- It was probably for the best.
- He is better off now.
- It was her time to go.
- At least he went quickly.
- You should work towards getting over this.

Case 2

Patient: Xiaotang

Style: Emotional shock

Symptom: Victim avoids talking, thinking and having feelings about the traumatic event. Dismisses it completely.

Xiaotang is a nurse and lost more than 10 family members in the earthquake. Tang continued working for three whole days when Zhao Qiuguo finally met her. She refused Zhao's help politely, "Thanks. I'm busy and have no time for this." Zhao recognized that Tang was displaying all the typical signs of emotional shock.

"Do you miss your mother?" Zhao said directly.

"Yes, at first. And now I don't know whether I miss her or not."

"Try thinking of your mother with a piece of clothing in your hands." Zhao passed a raincoat to Tang and continued. "Who do you think was the first person your mother thought of when she was trapped?"

"It must be me. She wanted to protect me."

"Maybe she also thought you could save her."

Tang started sobbing but stopped quickly.

Zhao told Tang to write down her mother's name, think about everything about her and then put it down. After two sessions, Tang learned to cry and started to express herself.

- You are strong enough to deal with this.
- That which doesn't kill us makes us stronger.
- You'll feel better soon.
- You did everything you could.
- You need to grieve. You need to relax.
- It's good that you are alive.
- It's good that no one else died.
- It could be worse; you still have a brother/sister/mother.

(By Li Jing)

Hongcun is the core of Hui Culture, a fact reflected by its exquisite architecture.
CFP Photos

Climbing the stairs of Huangshan

By Huang Daohen

If you want to only climb one mountain in China, then let it be Huangshan Mountain. Its craggy rock faces, hanging mists and clustered pines are a distinctly Chinese landscape.

Brief on Huangshan

The mountain range, consisting of some 70 peaks over 1,000 meters, winds across Anhui Province.

Known as Yishan in ancient texts, the mountain range took on its present name during the Tang Dynasty (618-907 AD), most likely in honor of Huang Di, the father of the Chinese people in legend. Over time, its trails have come to be furnished with stone stairways.

At the very beginning, during the policy of opening up, former Chairman Deng Xiaoping climbed the mountain and said, "Huangshan is a good place where tourism can prosper. You must boast about it and make it known to the world." The mountain entered a new chapter of development shortly after.

Huangshan was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999.

Hiking Huangshan

Depending on your stamina and tolerance for crowds, there are several ways to tackle Huangshan. There are three cable car lines which connect peaks and are also linked by well-maintained trails. Otherwise, hikers have two basic choices of paths: Eastern and Western Steps. The former is the easier of the two while the latter the more scenic and rugged.

We suggest visitors take the west canyon trails, starting from the side where the Taiping cable car station is located. It is amazing, the views there are more spectacular and its mostly downhill. Also it is virtually crowdless.

Regardless of which path you take, you will find yourself in scores of rocks, trees and scenic outlooks. They are usually named after some creature or figure they resemble.

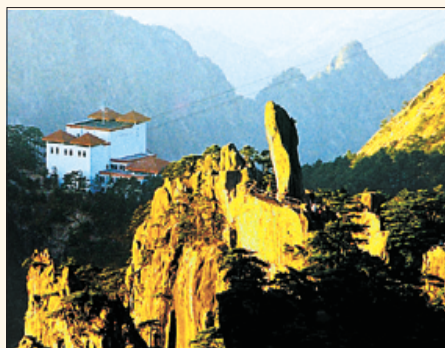
One notable example is Welcoming Pine (Yingke Song), one may instantly find in countless images on silk, paper and porcelain. The pine,

reputed to be some 800 years old, stands by the Western Steps with branches outspread like arms, greeting all new arrivals.

Admission to Huangshan is 200 yuan and one-way cable car tickets are 80 yuan.

Bright Summit Peak

The crowning glory of Huangshan is the rough circle of peaks, Purple Cloud Peak, Pine Forest Peak and Bright Summit Peak. At an elevation of 1,840 meters, Bright Summit Peak (Guangmingding), the second highest



Bright Summit Peak in the sunset

in Huangshan, is now the highest peak to which visitors may ascend. The highest, Purple Cloud Peak, has been closed due to ecological protection concerns.

The area can either be part of a long day's hike or an overnight destination. Though we do not recommend you drink excessively on the trail or carve a message in the mountainside, we do recommend you join the masses in viewing the sunrise from one of the peaks.

The area overlooking Beihai (Northern Sea) is especially lovely. It is well worth braving the morning chill.

It also provides great views of Cloud Sea and its neighboring peaks including the Celestial Capital Peak, Lotus Flower Peak and Jade Screen Peak.

Getting there: The Western Steps will get you to the access trail. You can also approach from the north, via

the trails coming from the direction of Beihai and the Eastern Steps.

Hot spring

Another symbolic feature that one should not miss while visiting Huangshan is its hot springs (*wenquan*). The springs maintain a steaming temperature of 42 C year round. Guests may bathe in the healing waters, which are purported to cure arthritis and skin problems.

However, do not expect gorgeous natural mountain pools. The waters have been channeled into functional pools in a bathhouse next to the hotels. There are a number of other places to stay, and many find it a quieter and more pleasant option than spending the night in Tangkou.

Getting there: Visitors can reach the springs area by road from Tangkou. Buses and taxis operate regularly between the town and the Hot Springs.

Open: 8 am – 11 pm (bathhouse)

Cost: 50 yuan for communal bath

Hongcun

For many who hope to experience peaceful rural China after seeing so many big cities, Hongcun, a pictur-



Enjoy hot springs at the foot of Huangshan

esque village located in Yixian County near the mountain area, is the best choice.

Hongcun Village, listed as World Cultural Heritage Site, has a long history of over 900 years and was built in the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127 AD). The village is full of primitive simplicity and elegance. It formed the remark-

able Hui Culture character with exquisite three carvings architecture and cultural scenery.

Within the village, lots of locals offer accommodations. It is quite an experience to stay in a traditional home – wood paneled rooms and four-post beds beside a half-moon pool.

We suggest you stay if you can, because from 7 am to 6 pm, the place is jam packed with tourists and art students. However, walking around Hongcun in early morning or late evening is something else. You can catch a glimpse of how life was during years past.

Cost: 80 yuan. A pass, available at the entrance, is valid for one week and is good for multiple entries.

Accommodation

There are several areas on and around Huangshan in which to spend the night. The Behai Hotel is one of several hotels on the mountains, good for a hot meal and a warm bed after a day of hiking. Aside from the expensive hotel in the mountains, the more comfortable are in Tangkou, a town that serves as the departure spot for most tours.

The Tangkou hotels cost about 400 yuan per night.

Climate

The area around Huangshan enjoys a mild climate with four distinct seasons: cool falls, snowy winters, pleasant springs and humid summers. It rains a lot, mostly from May to September. As you ascend, the temperature may drop significantly.

The best time to visit is spring or fall, when the weather is moderate and the humidity and heat are minimal.

Take a splash at Spain's water expo



The fountain in Plaza del Pilar represents a map of Latin America.
CFP Photos



Street scene in Zaragoza



Water is the essence of life and one of the best ways to cool off in summer. Zaragoza, a major city of northern Spain and on the banks of the Ebro River, is holding a summer expo to celebrate H₂O.

The Expo Zaragoza 2008, themed "water and sustainable development," starts June 14 and continues through September 14. The Expo was created with an initial investment of €1.5 billion. Its construction was the biggest undertaking in Zaragoza's recent history.

Thermal Spa Center

Water is the focus of the expo, and the Thermal Spa Center is its star attraction. The center located in the Water Park offers everything visitors need to rest and relax, including heated water, a solarium, waterfalls, saunas, swimming pools, golf course and a gym.

The center offers 34 health and beauty programs in its pools and thermal facilities in its three sections.

The first area includes a large swimming pool with one part outside and the other indoors. The interior has a pool with lap lanes, waterfalls, a geyser and several water beds and training lanes. In the outdoor section there are water seats and a geyser, as well as a solarium and small beach area.

The second area is located next to the main pool and has Arabic baths, two saunas, water nebulizers, cold showers and dry beauty treatment cabins. The natural daylight and the large window beside the vegetation of the Water Park possibly will make people feel as if they're resting in a forest.

The Thermal Centre is designed to imitate ancient Roman baths. The room uses the warmth of the sun to raise its temperature, eventually turning it into a steam room. You can relax in algae and mud cabins, hydromassage baths and the separate massage and rehabilitation rooms.

The center is designed with people who prefer more relaxing sports in mind. Its facilities include a gym and golf course.

You can work out in the weights rooms, or do yoga.

Fun for children

As its name would suggest, The Children's Balcony is a great place to take children to sing, dance and watch acrobatic performances. Songs taught at the Expo are about the journey of a drop in the big cycle of rain-water. Children need to use their imaginations to understand the importance of water. Circus professionals and puppets like Japanese goblins Morizo and Kiccoro, as well as characters from "Los Lunnis," will head for the balcony to entertain children.

Children can also participate in a dance show combined with flamenco music. Teenagers can perform with African dancers, who are experts in hip-hop rhythms.

At Ingenuity Square, youngsters can build a range of different toys, wind-powered cars, wind-mills, water wheels and blow pipes. They can try out the devices in groups. In the Water channels square, they can try being a cabin boy for a day. There are three channels where they can make boats move forward to pass obstacles like cranes and locks.

The show "The Serpent's Awakening," staged in the evening, will include 80 artists. A fiesta with fireworks follows the performance.

City visit

The Ebro River and its surroundings are Zaragoza's main ecological areas. A walk along the river is all that is needed to grasp the historical value of the city.

There are many places of interest along the Ebro. The most

famous is the Galacho de Juslibol. It is a protected nature area that is 5 kilometers from the center of the city.

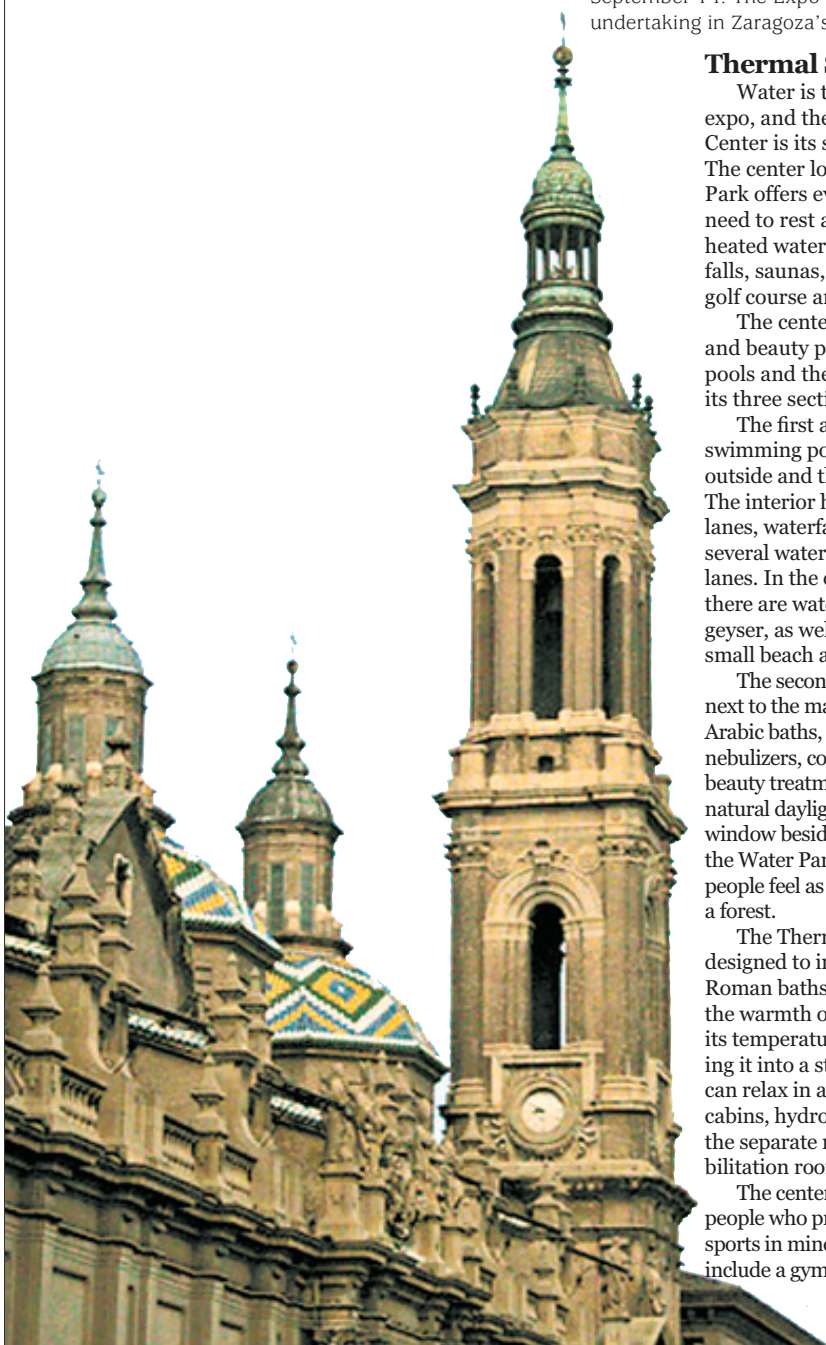
Another highly-recommended route is the Aragon Imperial Canal, a great feat of engineering, completed in the 18th century. It was originally designed to link the Cantabrian Sea with the Mediterranean via a long, navigable channel. This canal is 150 kilometers long and runs through Zaragoza. The banks of the canal are home to a host of animals and plant species.

The Imperial Canal passes alongside the city's "green lung": Primo de Rivera Park. There is a beautiful ensemble of paths and avenues with fountains and gardens. The park is like a huge open-air museum where visitors can find a statue of the King Alfonso I "the Warrior," one of the city's most spectacular monuments.

Getting there

Zaragoza is reachable from major European cities by train. Beijing also has direct airline flights to the city. Getting around in Zaragoza is convenient, and other cities like Madrid and Barcelona are accessible by High Speed Train (AVE). A trip from Zaragoza to Madrid takes just under two hours by AVE. The city has a modern Interchange Station, Zaragoza Station - Delicias, which connects arriving passengers to the city's bus routes.

(By Jackie Zhang)



The Zaragoza Cathedral

Gifts that close the deal

Giving corporate gifts has long been regarded as good business etiquette and a great way to build relationships. A survey conducted by the Promotional Products Association International (PPAI) showed that businesses with a corporate gift program were two times more likely to be contacted by customers than those who did not. However, with so many gifts to choose from, how do you decide which is the best? Which one will be remembered and how can you really impress an important client?

Often it is not the most expensive gift, but the most thoughtful which has the greatest impact, as the following experience illustrates. A former colleague was having a difficult time building a relationship with a large multinational company. She had taken her client out for several dinners and presented her with company-branded crystal glasses and a leather notebook but their relationship was still frosty. During a lunch meeting one day her con-

tact mentioned that her daughter was a huge fan of an Australian candy not found in China. Luckily my colleague was scheduled to attend a conference in Sydney that month. She remembered the candy and purchased a few bars. She gift-wrapped them and included a handwritten note hoping her client's daughter would enjoy the treat. Almost overnight the relationship warmed up and within a few months, my colleague had signed the biggest contract of her career. She attributes it to the consideration shown by her gift. So how do you choose the right gift to show that personal touch?

The first thing to consider is what not to buy. You must avoid giving gifts that could be interpreted as bribes as you could be viewed as unprofessional and untrustworthy. Therefore, it is not good practice to give a gift during any kind of negotiation period. Moreover, a very expensive gift could be construed as a potential bribe whereas a very inexpensive gift could display a

lack of generosity. To avoid giving the wrong impression you should consult your company's policy on corporate gifts.

A good corporate gift policy will include a limit on the cost of the gift and guidelines for suitable gift ideas. Moreover, your customer's company may also have a policy on receiving gifts. In some companies, especially North American based, employees may be not be allowed to accept any gifts. It is best to check with their HR department before shopping. If your customer cannot accept a gift, consider treating them to dinner or even sending a special handwritten card as a token of your respect. Once you know the policy and your budget, it is time to shop.

Although company-branded durables such as pens are a common gift, they lack the personal touch necessary to impress a big client. If you have a good relationship with the recipient you should give a gift to match their interests and hobbies. For example a golf enthusiast would

surely appreciate a subscription to a specialist golf magazine. If you do not have such information or if the recipient does not have any specific interests then a consumable product such as high-quality food or beverage or a voucher for a massage or spa experience is a reliable alternative. Moreover, it is better to go for consumables than try to judge the taste of others. Too often that carefully-selected tie or flower vase will not suit the taste of your client.

On the other hand, a consumable product such as quality chocolates will be enjoyed only once but the memory will remain. In the US, the corporate gift food industry is worth an estimated \$3.5 billion, which highlights the popularity and success of giving food as a gift. A general rule to follow is to buy something not related to work, such as a new office chair or desk lamp, but something related to personal life as this will foster a more personal relationship between you and the recipient.

Finally, remember the presentation of your gift is very



Naomi Saunders,
Beijing Marketing Manager,
ClarkMorgan
Corporate Training

important. Most department stores and on-line shops will offer a gift wrapping service or you can wrap the gift yourself using quality paper and a beautiful colored bow.

Giving corporate gifts can be tricky but with some careful planning and thought you can make a great impression, improve external business relationships and hopefully sign that once in a lifetime contract.

Charity

China UI' charity sale for Sichuan



China UI launches T-shirts with different themes every year. This

year China UI, cooperated with a professional T-shirt merchant, and designed T-shirts with the image of china hearts and the time 14:28. The 50-yuan-worth T-shirts were specially designed for the charity sale for Sichuan. Funds raised will be totally donated to support all the victims of the affected area. To buy T-shirts, please visit chinaui.com or email web@chinaui.com for English service.

Beijing Charity Gala

The Commonwealth Society in Beijing is a non-profitable associa-

tion mainly devoted to organizing fund raising activities to devote to charities in China. Funds raised will be donated to support all the victims of the earthquake in Sichuan Province. To buy tickets for the charity gala and/or give donations please call the Embassy of Malta and ask for Mariella Grech.

Where: China World Hotel Ballroom, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie

When: 6:30 pm, June 6

Admission: 350 yuan (entrance), 50 yuan (raffle)

Tel: 6532 3114

Hotel

So spring at Sofitel

Sofitel is offering its spring package, which includes a complimentary upgrade to Luxury Room Club Sofitel without checkout time

at 6 pm, invitation to the exclusive benefits of Club Sofitel and one-way limousine service either from or to the airport.

Cost: From 1,988 yuan per

night. Price is subject to a 15 percent surcharge.

When: until July 24

Tel: 8599 6666, 400 818 2688; advance reservation is required.

Outdoors

Jiankou Great Wall

The excursion includes two challenging Great Wall hikes on consecutive days. Saturday's Great Wall hike starts on the Beijing side of the mountain range, and ends 4-5 hours later at a local guide's guesthouse. Sunday's hike crosses some spectacular stretches of Great Wall, and ends at the Mutianyu Great Wall.

Where: Meet on the ground floor of Starbucks (Jiangtai Lu, Lido Holiday Inn)

When: 9 am - 5 pm (next day), May 31 to June 1

Cost: 650 yuan

Tel: 13910025516 (reservations are essential)

Royal canal boat tour to the Summer Palace

This well-received boat and walking tour provides opportunity to see a bit of everything in Beijing, including historical sites and daily life. Cruise along the imperial canal which passes the Beijing Zoo, Beijing

Aquarium, and the Purple Bamboo Garden. The boat will stop at the Pagoda temple, Purple Bamboo Garden and continue to the south gate of the Summer Palace.

Where: Meet at the Chinese Culture Club (CCC) (Kent Center, 29 Anji-alou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang) for bus transportation.

When: 9 am - 3:30 pm, May 31

Cost: 350 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (reservations are essential)

Nightlife

DJ Phantom

DJ Phantom, the French hip-hop veteran, is no stranger to fame. He is releasing his fourth album. Collaborations with the likes of DJ Cash Money, J-Live and Worth worst, coupled with Solid Vodka in full flow, prove that this night is going to explode!

Where: Lan Club, 4/f, LG Twin Towers, 12B Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang

When: 9 pm, May 31

Tel: 5109 6012

Benefit for Ian Sherman

The concert features PK14, Carsick Cars, Snapline, Ourselves Beside Me, the Gar, Arrows Made of Desire, RandomK(e), Sulumi and iLoop

Where: D22, 242 Chengfu Lu, Haidian

When: 7 pm, May 30

Admission: 100 yuan

Tel: 6265 3177

A retrospect on jade solid gold

The concert features Muma & third party and four other bands.

Where: Star Live, F/3, Tangguo Building, Yonghegongqiao Bei, Chaoyang

When: 8:30 pm, May 31

Admission: 50 yuan (door), 40 yuan (advance)

Tel: 6425 5677

(By Li Jing)

If you have any info for this page, please send it to lixiaojing@ynet.com

Chinglish story

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Gan Tian at gantian@ynet.com.

The Fosbury Flop faces the music

By Charles Zhu

I went with a friend of mine to the music shop in Wangfujing and bought a CD titled "Fosbury" produced by Tahiti 80. It contained the music that I liked most. I enjoyed listening to it because it combined soul, pop, electronic sounds and English rock to a perfectionist's taste. Especially "Your Love Shines" with lead singer Linda Lewis which was simply wonderful. It had such songs as "Something About You Girl," "On the Run" and "Paradise" that will send you head over heels in love.

"What does Fosbury mean here?" my friend asked me.

"I don't know. The title is the title. Let it be whatever it is," I replied impatiently.

However, I felt quite uneasy when I got home. I should not have been so irresponsible in my response to my friend.

Frankly speaking, I myself was also quite puzzled by the title of the album "Fosbury." I went to my English friend James and tried to find out whether he knew what it meant.

With a smile, he asked, "Do you remember how people used to high-jump over a bar in the first half of the 20th century?"

I said of course I knew. People first scissor-jumped over the bar and later used the so-called Western roll, the straddle technique.

"Then what happened?"

he asked.

"Then people jumped over the bar leading with their backs."

"That's it. The dude who first used that technique was called Dick Fosbury. He did it quite accidentally. When he was a school boy at the age of 16, he took part in a meet in Oregon. He first used the old scissor style and beat his personal best of 1.63 meters. When the bar moved to 1.68 meters, he thought he had to try something different to beat that height. He ran up, and intuitively, tried going over back first. The result was exceptionally good and the "flop" was born.

"In 1968 at the Mexico Olympics, though he was in the top five or six in the world he was not sure whether or not he would win the Olympic gold. The first jump was successful at 2.24 meters. When he made his winning leap on the third attempt, he was the only one to use the flop and the Olympic crowd simply went crazy over his unusual style."

I began to chime in, "So, that's the Fosbury flop!" Nevertheless, I still did not know what Fosbury had to do with the music on my new CD, since there wasn't any song themed on the Fosbury flop or even with that title.

James said, "Fosbury in his way revolutionized the high jump. The musical group Tahiti 80 hopes to revolutionize their music just as Dick Fosbury did."

"That's it!" I cried.

Blacklist

Beijing Today has come up with Blacklist, a new column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you're planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then this page is your new best friend. Watch it for each week.



This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please take a picture and send it to gantian@ynet.com together with your name and address.

Cut Hair shop

By Derrick Sobodash

This storefront, like many examples of mangled English around town, is the result of laziness more than misunderstandings in translation. Depending on services offered, a "Cut Hair" shop should, in English, be called either a barber shop or hair salon.

Similar laziness prevails in the English translation of its main service: "Shamp head message." In English, this comes out as total nonsense. The word "shamp" has no meaning at all, and a message has little to do with shampoos or heads. The writer was obviously aiming for "Shampoo and Head Massage," but fell a few hundred steps short.

The second line does not get any better. It reads, "Chinexe Herbs Foot Care Foot Massage." Massage has been rendered as "message" once again, and somehow Chinese was mistakenly written as "Chinexe," which sounds too similar to a computer virus named Chin.exe. Bank that thought for a day when I'm feeling more villainous. The text should be broken up into multiple services. The first is a foot soak in herbal medicine, and the second is a simple foot massage. "Herbal Foot Bath, Foot Massage" would work fine for this line.

The last line, that I least want to touch, "Chinese Doctor Health Care 45 Minutes." This is very sketchy. This kind of service, even in its Chinese text, is often a thinly-veiled attempt at concealing a prostitution side business, or at the very least a "Happy Ending" massage. However, assuming this store is on the up-and-up, the translator could write something like "45-minute Medicinal Massage."

Well-educated doctors who hold degrees in Chinese medicine and a license to practice rarely turn to barber shops for work.

Photo by Derrick Sobodash



CFP Photo

Local professor: Zhu Shida

1. The artist's characteristics lie in his application of materials, not to simply serve visual demands.

The problem with this sentence lies in the usage of the infinitive clause. As we know, most of these types of clauses serve as a clause of purpose. However, in the context of this sentence, the clause has nothing to do with the purpose of the act to "lie in." The best solution is to break this sentence into two independent sentences: "The artist's characteristics lie in his application of materials. They do not simply serve visual demands."

2. Single society

When I first encountered this term, I was very confused so I asked the writer to explain it to me. It turned out that he wished to express the idea of "danyi" in Chinese. Superficially, you would say single means "danyi" in Chinese. However, for idiomatic English, it should mean "simple." Actually, what the writer wanted to say was "simple society." So, this tells us that when doing a translation from Chinese into English, you have to tap into the essential meaning of a word and say it idiomatically, understandable to the English-speaking people but yet not allowed to lose its original Chinese sense.

Native Speaker: Joe Edwards

1. The artist's characteristic lies in his application of materials, not to simply serve visual demands.

To be honest, I have no idea what this writer is trying to say here but I love a challenge. Let's see if I can figure something out and both I and the readers might learn something in the end if I succeed. By examining this sentence closely, you can see that two different ideas are being presented but they don't support each other or connect effectively. They really should not be grouped into one singular sentence. It is confusing. Let's do a little grammatical nipping and tucking and see what that produces. Create two sentences.

For example, "The artist's characteristics lie in his application of materials. They do not simply serve visual demands." Gadzooks! It makes sense now! It is a beautiful thing.

2. Single society

When Chinese is translated badly into English, it can be hilarious, confusing, irritating, rap-like, untrue, frightening, unknowingly poetic, prophetic, insulting, demeaning, disturbing, melodic, rhyming, contradictory, fluid, not to mention, but I will, supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. The example term above, "single society" sounds nice but what does it mean? Possibly, a society of the future where people are not allowed to marry

and must date forever? Or, the government has passed a new law whereby everybody must perform every human act, within a 24-hour period, one activity at a time? Upon investigation, we learned that the writer was trying to translate from the Chinese the concept of danyi which literally means "single," but what he really wanted to say was "simple" and use the expression, "simple society." Translating from Chinese to English can be a rough road to travel if in the hands of an amateur. You must maintain the Chinese flavor while making the translated words easily understood by a native English speaker, even though the sound of it is really quite atrocious.

Margot at the wedding



Movie of the week

The star of this film is Nicole Kidman. This movie is not that impressive but it is sort of like eating chocolate. When you have it, you know it is not the best food in the world for you but if you don't have it, you feel quite uncomfortable and feel there is something very important missing from your life.

Family is a simple world but contains very complex meaning in real life. Through this film, you learn that each family has its own secrets.

Synopsis

Margot and her son Claude decide to visit her sister Pauline after she announces that she is getting married to less-than-impressive Malcolm. In short order, the storm the sisters create leaves behind a disaster area of wrecked relationships and exposed family secrets. Will the wedding be successful? *Margot at the wedding* answers that question.

Scene 1:

Sisters reunite

Pauline: Yeah, poor Becky. Now it's a storage room. I've just started to feel like it's our house not my parents. You know?

Margot: Our parents.

Pauline: Of course. It might still smell like paint, but ...

Margot: I thought he was a musician.

Pauline: Well, music's officially a hobby. He's painting now. And writing letters to newspapers and magazines. He's very meticulous.⁽¹⁾ He'll spend up to a week writing a response to a music review. He's incredibly smart. Maybe too

smart. I don't know. We're doing very well.

Margot: Good. I mean, you must be.

Pauline: I don't know where to begin.

What can I tell you? It seems I'm pregnant, but it's really early so ... I haven't told anyone. I mean, I haven't told Malcolm or Ingrid.

Margot: Wow ...

Pauline: Yeah, if it sticks. We'll see. I hope so. Things are good. We did a couples seminar⁽²⁾ two months ago or so in Maine. They give you exercises and things to do. I know you're not convinced⁽³⁾, but ...

Margot: (vaguely) Mm hm.

Vocabulary

- meticulous:** paying careful attention to every detail.
- seminar:** a meeting for discussion or training.
- convinced:** completely sure about something.
- gig:** a performance being played by musicians.
- strip down:** take off all or most of your clothes
- screw loose:** to be crazy, insane.
- fondle:** to touch and move your hand gently over another body in a sexual way.
- irk:** annoy or irritate
- akin:** similar to
- incompetent:** not have the skill or ability to do your job or a task as it should be done.

(By Sun Jina)



Scene 2:

Talking about dreams

Malcolm: In the late 80's. It was a solo gig⁽⁴⁾ after he left the Cars.

Claude: So, you're kind of famous.

Malcolm: No. No. Believe me, I'm not. I used to want to be, but, No. Do you want to be famous?

Margot: Claude wants to be very famous.

Malcolm: Well, make sure you can handle rejection. I can't. For me, expectation just turns to disappointment. So, ultimately I'd rather not try. It'll all go black for

us soon enough anyway.

Pauline: Claude, ignore him.

Pauline: When your mother moved to New York she used to send me books and records. She sent me REM's "Murmur" ...

Margot: And the Pixies.

Pauline: And X. She was very cool your mother.

Margot: You only liked top forty.

Pauline: Yeah, but I love REM now.

Margot: I don't really listen to music anymore.

Pauline: I was dating that guy, Horace

back then. Remember him?

Margot: Was that the guy who liked to rough you up?

Pauline: No, that was our dad.

Margot: Our father used to strip down⁽⁵⁾ to his skivvies and beat us with a belt.

Malcolm: That man had a sexual screw loose⁽⁶⁾.

Pauline: It's awful – that stuff that happens to kids. Malcolm was fondled⁽⁷⁾ by a male baby-sitter.

Malcolm: Just use that information however you want ...

Scene 3:

Bad quarrel

Pauline: Margot used to never speak. I remember when we went on a double date in high school, that kid Ron asked you if English was your first language.

Margot: It's true. I used to think I might have some kind of brain defect.

Pauline: You thought you were aphasic.

Margot: I'm still not sure.

Pauline: Oh, Jesus, Margot.

Margot: It's very possible, Paul.

Pauline: I just ... your diagnoses sometimes irk⁽⁸⁾ the hell out of me.

Margot: Malcolm, can you slow down.

Malcolm: What?

Dick: I can drive if you like.

Malcolm: No, you got dinner, the driving's on me.

Dick: Well, I'll let you pay your half if you'll slow down.

Malcolm: Well, neither Pauline or I ordered dessert.

Pauline: Malcolm, let it go. Margot would insist on driving if she knew how.

Margot: My license elapsed. But I know how.

Malcolm: It's probably for the best. I have this theory, I think, historically, women have been held back in so many ways that when they get power, like they do behind the wheel, they can't help but abuse it. It's akin⁽⁹⁾ to Hannah Arendt's Eichmann theory about prison guards and prisoners switching rolls.

Dick: That's a charming philosophy.

Margot: Yeah. Tell that one a lot.

Malcolm: This isn't a blanket thing. I mean, women can be great drivers too ...

Pauline: Said the man with the moustache that he thinks he's wearing in quotes.

Margot: It's meant to be funny.

Malcolm: Are you doing this for her benefit or mine?

Malcolm: What the fuck?

Pauline: What?

Malcolm: No, there they go. Okay. It's fine. I thought I had no brakes for a minute ...

Margot: Malcolm! Dick grabs the lit butt and chucks it in the road.

Malcolm: What?!

Margot: Watch it!

Malcolm: It's fine, Margot!

Pauline: You're just so incompetent⁽¹⁰⁾.
Malcolm: Why don't you fucking drive yourselves home!

Pauline: Oh, God.

(Pauline opens the door and staggers toward the brush. She leans against a tree and looks like she might vomit. Malcolm watches in the rearview mirror)